

DX News

Serving DX'ers since 1933



Volume 68, No. 9 - December 4, 2000 (ISSN 0737-1659)

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CPC Test Calendar

WILM DE 1456 Feb. 4 0000-0200

From the Publisher ... Thanks again to those who keep a record of DXN arrivals and deviations (mailing, that is!) and forward them to me. Except for those times when I have to mail on a Saturday morning, arrival times seem to have stabilized, and the condition of DXN when it does arrive seems to be good, from your feedback. Indeed, I've had to replace far fewer DXN's due to damage in the postal system during the past two years than before, probably due to better taping and possibly due to adjustments in postal scanning machinery. Replacement copies are always free, and you don't need to send the damaged copy for exchange.

Having said all that, I'll remind members that during the period from about December 15 through January 10, arrival times slow down quite a bit, which is why we skip a week (no DXN with a publication date of January 1), not to mention the break for the publisher and editors. Wait up to a week more before requesting replacement copies during this period.

This is also a good time to remind all to check the back page before automatically sending out a renewal check to the address in largest print. We've had quite a few cases of members waiting to the last minute to renew and then sending the check to the wrong address and missing one or more issues (and a few who persist in sending DXN renewal checks to Fred Vobbe and then wonder why they start getting DXAS tapes in the mail, hi). It's my policy to start adding renewal notices to labels about 7-8 weeks in advance of expiration dates (8-9 in the case of non-USA addresses), so you can't say you didn't know ahead of time, unless I somehow missed highlighting the notice.

We always seem to have several members who fail to send in address changes, have DXN's returned to Topeka, and get their subscription cut off until they realize that they are no longer receiving their favorite magazine; or others who send in slightly incorrect addresses, ignore my pleas to send in a corrected address, and then complain when their DXN's end up being returned. Our mailing software can do some corrections, but in

the case of odd abbreviations (don't get me started on THAT topic again!) in addresses, especially rural ones, the software has no clue, and neither do I. Don't assume that just because you still get DXN's with an incorrect address that you always will ... your next carrier might just return your DXN, as several have in the past!

Finally, to our European and other non-USA members, I don't believe we've had any DXN's get dumped on a boat instead of a plane for sometime now (we're talking weeks to MONTHS for delivery), but free replacement of missing DXN's still applies to you ... as do 100% correct addresses (with minimum abbreviations, please). And for Canadian members ... I can't believe how long it takes to get a DXN across the border and into your hands!

DXN Publishing Schedule, Volume 68

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

DX Time Machine

From the pages of DX News:

50 years ago ... from the December 2, 1950 This issue contained a list of all Japanese HCB stations; also information by airmail from O. Lund Johansen, Copenhagen, Denmark, that the new World Radio Handbook was just off the press, larger and more complete than last year, and the price was \$1.25!

25 years ago ... from the December 8, 1975 DXN: A letter to Ernie Cooper, Provincetown, MA, from Scott Pendergraft, CE of WWNS-1240, Statesboro, GA, stated that they agreed to use march music during their December 15 test and to verify accurate reception reports.

10 years ago ... from the December 3, 1990 DXN: A long list of "NRC Common Abbreviations" was included in this issue.

AM Switch

Jerry Starr w8jv@yahoo.com
c/o WHOT Radio
4040 Simon Road
Youngstown, OH 44512-1320

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

CALL LETTER CHANGES

	<u>Old call</u>		<u>New call</u>
950	WEZO	NY Rochester	WBBF
1220	*New	ON Cornwall	CJUL

APPLICATION FOR NEW STATIONS

680	PR San Juan:	400/2000 U1 (synchro for WAPA)
1490	NH Lebanon:	600/600 U1

GRANTS FOR NEW STATIONS

None

APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES

760	WBDO	FL Palm City:	250/240 U4
790	WTNC	NC Thomasville:	2500/70 U1
980	WPGA	FL Perry:	1000/180 U1
990	KRKS	CO Denver:	6500/400 U2
1050	WJXY	SC Conway:	city of license to Charleston, SC
1090	WCAR	MI Livonia:	city of license to Melvindale, MI
1120	KLIM	CO Limon:	city of license to Security, CO
1200	WKDA	TN Lebanon:	10000/195 (CH 3800) U6, city of license to Nashville, TN
1260	WISO	PR Ponce:	2500/2500 U1
1340	KXEO	MO Mexico:	960/960 U1
1340	KEBC	OK Oklahoma City:	city of license to Midwest City, OK
1380	KMUL	TX Muleshoe:	amend application to show 50000/9 U3, city of license to Farwell, TX
1450	WHRC	RI West Warwick:	5000/1000 U5
1460	WBCU	SC Union:	to 820 kHz, 1700/93 U3
1520	WDMN	OH Toledo:	city of license to Rossford, OH
1580	WSMO	NC Camp Lejeune:	20000/16 (CH 3000) U1
1590	WZUM	PA Carnegie:	modify CP to show 4400/59 U4
1600	WKBJ	TN Milan:	city of license to Lakeland, TN

Many stations shown above with city of license changes were shown in the last few issues with applications for technical changes. For some reason these are being released at separate times by the FCC, but they are part of the same application. These COL applications should be added to the applications shown last week for these respective stations.

GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES

1230	KWG	CA Stockton:	relocate transmitter
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OTHERNESS

620	KZTY	NV Winchester:	application for 330/220 U4 has been DISMISSED
830	KNCO	CA Grass Valley:	CP for 5000/5000 U2 is on
960	KOVO	UT Provo:	station is SILENT
970	KVWM	AZ Show Low:	CP for 5000/195 U1 is on
1220	CJUL	ON Cornwall:	new station is poised to begin operations on 11/24
1230	KWSN	SD Sioux Falls:	CP for 440/440 U1 from new site is on
1310	KFVR	CA Crescent City:	CP to relocate transmitter is on
1340	WALL	NY Middletown:	CP to relocate transmitter is on
1340	KTMP	UT Heber City:	license was cancelled by the FCC on 3/16/99, but the station has successfully petitioned the FCC to reconsider this decision, and the license and call sign have been reinstated. They are 1000/1000 U1
1530	WVFC	PA McConnellsburg:	application to move to King of Prussia, PA shown last is-



sue is a mystery since this is a suburb of Philadelphia where a 50 KW station already exists on 1540 kHz as Dave Schmidt points out. This is one of a number of applications that don't seem to make much sense.

1560 KILE TX Bellaire: application for 5000/1000 U4 has been DENIED (but application for 5000 D3 still seems to be alive)

Thanks: Bill Hale, Andy Rugg, Ed Krejny, Rod O'Conner, Dave Schmidt, and MSJ

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

Jerry & BKF

Professional

Barry S. Finkel bsfinkel@ANL.gov

Sports Networks

10314 S. Oakley
Chicago, IL 60643-2409

Network listings for team sports stations

Patrick Roberson reports (via e-mail) that the NBA Portland Trailblazers this season are on 750 KXL-OR. This is a change to what Ken Onychuk had sent me. When there are conflicts, the games move to 95.5 KXJM-OR. Paul Allen owns the team and both radio stations.

Michael P. Battaglino sent me this: "I was doing a little research on one of my loggings yesterday and I ran across the affiliate list for the Fox Sports Network, which was launched in partnership w/ Premier Networks in September."

Fox Sports Radio Network - via Michael P. Battaglino 11/20/2000

540	WQTM-FL	800	KXIC-IA	1210	WWGQ-TN	1360	WCKY-OH
550	KGME-AZ	840	WHAS-KY	1230	WFII-OH	1400	KFRU-MO
610	KAVL-CA	850	KHHO-WA	1240	KLIK-MO	1430	WENE-NY
610	WTVN-OH	910	WTMZ-SC	1240	KEJO-OR	1440	WROK-IL
620	WHEN-NY	930	WNZZ-FL	1240	WIMZ-TN	1450	KMCA-CA
620	KEWS-OR	930	WHON-OH	1250	WDAE-FL	1450	KFIZ-WI
690	XTRA-BC	950	KOEL-MO	1260	WCHV-VA	1460	KMWX-WA
690	KHEY-TX	960	WELL-CT	1270	WNLS-FL	1490	KOSR-NE
730	WUMP-AL	970	WWSW-PA	1280	KIT-WA	1510	KGA-WA
760	KTKR-TX	980	WOFX-NY	1290	WIRL-IL	1550	WHIT-WI
790	WWKY-KY	980	WILK-PA	1310	WYUR-MI	1610	KALT-TX
790	WAYY-WI	1070	WCSZ-SC	1340	KTMM-CO	1700	WAFN-FL
790	KJRB-WA	1190	KEX-OR	1340	KLOO-OR		



Need more information about AM DX'ing?

Mail a First-Class stamp to NRC Publications - P. O. Box 164 - Mannsville, NY 13661-0164 and ask for the NRC Publications Catalog.

The NRC AM Radio Log, 21st Edition, including cross-referenced listings from 530-1700 khz., is compiled from both listeners' reports and official sources, making it the most accurate listing of U. S. and Canadian AM stations available. Unbound, three-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: Latin America, \$24.00; Europe, \$25.00; rest of the world: \$28.00. Order from: NRC Publications - Box 164 - Mannsville, NY 13661 (NY residents, please add sales tax).



Domestic DX Digest

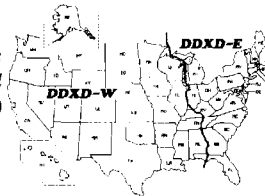
West: **Bill Hale** phantom2@eaze.net

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

East: **Michael Shaw** mshaw002@tampabay.rr.com

455 Alt. 19 S., Apt. 176 - Palm Harbor, FL 34683-5931

(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 temperatures are getting cold, so AM DX is heating up! Let's hear what you've been logging.
- Deadlines are always Thursday evenings. See You Here.

REPORTERS

AB-CA Art Blair Folsom NRD-515 & Kiwa loop <blairs@calweb.com>
 GJ-CA Gary Jackson Sacramento FRG-8800 + Kiwa Loop
 BM-SD Bill Moser Fort Pierre barefoot Superadio II <wcmfort@dakota2k.net>
 JJR-WI John J. Rieger South Milwaukee FRG 100, Kiwa loop, MFJ-959B tuner-preamp
 <johnrieger@webtv.net>
 KR-AZ Kevin Redding Mesa Optimus 12-604A; Radio Shack DX-375 and RS 18-1533 loop; DX-440 anad RS 18-1533 loop <lwdxer@juno.com>
 MS-MB Morris Sorensen Winnipeg Drake R-8 with McKay-Dymek loop; Grundig YB-400 with internal antenna <urbanat@hotmail.com>
 JW-CO John Wilkins Wheat Ridge Drake R-8, 4-foot backslupe <peakbagger3@juno.com>
 Ed.-TX Editor North Richland Hills

STATION NEWS & NOTES

- 690 KECN ID Blackfoot - 11/17 2159 - Legal ID at 2159:50: . . . serving southeast Idaho from Blackfoot, KECN, Family Value Talk Radio and into SRN News. The long-familiar dual KECN/KICN ID was NOT noted, so apparently no longer //, at least not all of the time. At 2205, a program note for the Snake River Panthers live broadcast on KECN. Fair signal. (JW-CO)
- 940 KXTK IA Des Moines - 11/15 1956 - With One-on-One Sports. Legal ID at 2000. Noted on several other occasions with SPT, so apparently have dropped the OLD format and the relay of KIOA-FM. (JW-CO)
- 1610 KALT TX Atlanta - Listen for tests soon, and eventually regular programming. I talked with the owner, Walter Lancaster of KALT on Nov 23, and they plan to be on the air soon with "positive talk" programs and evening sports talk shows from Fox Radio Sports. Reports should go to Mr. Lancaster at address in AM Log. [Ed.-TX]
- 1680 KAVT CA Fresno - 11/14 I talked to a woman at KAVT and she said they were having problems with the antenna and were not ready to go on the air. Nothing specific. Have not heard them testing since 10/29/00. (GJ-CA)

UNIDs and UNID HELP

- 1470 UNID ?? - 11/18 1002 - Sit back, relax, and enjoy the best of Pat and Tom on KNVI. Gave a 1-800 number and a . . . previously recorded, do not call advisory. Think this was a syndicated music program, but faded too soon to know for sure. Looped NE-SW with pretty fair signal in KEZZ null, so reasonably sure of calls. Nothing in Log is close. (JW-CO)

TIS & OTHER STUFF

- 1610 TIS/HAR CA Davis - 11/15 0523 - Strong signal at almost 20 miles, giving info for Highway 80 and Mace Blvd. Operated by Cal Trans and City of Davis. (GJ-CA)

MIDNIGHT TO MIDNIGHT ELT

- 560 KBLU AZ Yuma - 11/23 - With ID and CNN Newstime 7:31. Under extremely heavy

splash from KFYI. This is extremely rare for Mesa. Not so rare for Phoenix. Go figure. (KR-AZ)

- 570 WNAX SD Yankton - 11/24 0659 - Fair, with AM-FM ID, weather and CBS News. (JJR-WI)
- 610 KNML NM Albuquerque - 11/23 [no time given] - Giving sports scores. (KR-AZ)
- 690 KGGF KS Coffeyville - 11/20 0800 - With ID after Derry Brownfield Show. Under XETRA sports from Tijuana. (KR-AZ)
- 860 KNUJ MN New Ulm - 11/18 1734 - Fair, in KKOW null, with sports report featuring Minnesota Gophers and other Minnesota teams, and mentions of Metrodome, into country music. (MS-MB)
- 880 WMDB TN Nashville - 11/15 1735 - Poor, with urban gospel, thru WLS slop. (JJR-WI)
- 940 KFRE CA Fresno - 11/23 0855 - Nueve Quarenta, Nueve Quarenta, Nueve Quarenta, Fresno. Has Radio Unica. (KR-AZ)
- 940 WMIX IL Mt. Vernon - 11/17 1911 - Tony Bennett tune, then 3 Times a Lady, then guy with WMIX AM 940 tag at 1918. Generally poor under KXTK. (JW-CO)
- 960 KSRA ID Salmon - 11/16 0905 - Truck ad, then results . . . from the KSRA Sports desk, then the same truck ad at 0908. Fair at best, with CFAC et al. Haven't heard this one in years. (JW-CO)
- 990 KRKS CO Denver - 11/23 0851 - Preaching and talking about God casting out Satan and listening no more. Then overcome by a Mexican. (KR-AZ)
- 1000 KTOK OK Oklahoma City - 11/21 0800 - With ToH ID: Newstalk 1000, KTOK mentioned about 6 times in a minute period and mention of weather by Rick Mitchell, then into ABC News droning on about the Indecision 2000 election. (KR-AZ)
- 1050 KMAP CA Frazier Park - 11/17 1943 - Radio Disney programming, then sign-off announcement by kid at 1945: . . . is now signing off the air. Join us bright and early tomorrow morning at 6 AM for more Radio Disney. This is AM 1050 KMAP Frazier Park, CA. Good night everybody. Then usual Mickey Mouse Club ending (Why, because we like you . . .) and off. Poor in QRM (XED, others). Been looking for this one for a long time, now can count it for California #100! (JW-CO)
- 1090 WAQE WI Rice Lake - 11/18 1713 - Fair, with traditional country music: Johnny Cash, etc. Local ads, IDs by female as Classic Country 1090-WAQE. (MS-MB)
- 1180 KOIL NE Omaha - 11/23 0837 - With Radio Disney and into an ad bank with ads for Fantasia 2000 and other Disney stuff. (KR-AZ)
- 1230 KQIK OR Lakeview - 11/21 2314 - Gal with KQIK call ID. (AB-CA)
- 1270 CHAT AB Medicine Hat - 11/19 0756 - Poor, with ID mentioning . . . on New Country 1270 Chat, then country music. (MS-MB)
- 1310 CHLW AB St. Paul - 11/15 0620 - C&W music, announcer with . . . all night . . . on CHLW. Very weak under KBTK & KLIX. Only second time heard here. (JW-CO)
- 1310 CHLW AB St. Paul - 11/21 0523 - C&W music, then This is Night Rose - put the hammer down. Today's best new Country and all-time favorites on 1310 CHLW. In and out throughout the hour, best ever heard here. Conditions to north have been very good of late. (JW-CO)
- 1370 KDTH IA Dubuque - 11/24 0715 - Fair, with program notes and calls said four times in 30 seconds. (JJR-WI)
- 1380 KUVR NE Holdrege - 11/17 1845 - Ad for local bakery, several oldies tunes to 1858 fadeout. Briefly fair, then gradually lost to KOTA. Should have been on 62 watt nite power. (JW-CO)
- 1380 KTKZp CA Sacramento - 11/18 0847 - Talk show (Common Sense Radio on the Radio America Network). Local spot with 916 area code, PSA with California Environmental Hot Line given (1-800-CLEANUP), program note for Raider football (. . . only on AM 1380 K-Talk). Fair, on peaks, but fading and KOTA QRM. Need this one for a call change; last heard as KSMJ. (JW-CO)
- 1430 KLO UT Ogden - 11/21 0807 - Fair, with talk about a police safety check in Salt Lake area, mentions of Utah Jazz and . . . here on 1430, KLO. (MS-MB)
- 1450 KBKW WA Aberdeen - 11/17 0955 - With local weather and legal ID. Possible new record? (AB-CA) [Yes, see below - Ed.]
- 1490 KDRO MO Sedalia - 11/17 1658-1701 - Area news, ad, ID, and CBS News. Decent signal on top of heap. First time heard; reception reported. (BM-SD)
- 1570 CKMW MB Winkler - 11/24 0707 - Poor, in mess, with many political ads. Country 1570 non-IDs. (JJR-WI)

WYKR

AM 1100 ★★ 101.3 FM
Puffer Broadcasting, Inc.
Wells River, Vermont
Haverhill, NH

GRAVEYARD DX UPDATE

* indicates record held by DXer from North America (excluding Alaska)



1230 kHz:

	Miles				
WHIR	KY	Danville	Jeff Falconer	Clinton	445

1450 kHz:

KBKW	WA	Aberdeen	Art Blair	Folsom, CA	*589
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Totals:	1230	1240	1340	1400	1450	1490	Total
Jeff Falconer Clinton, ON	41	42	50	50	45	42	270
Ron Bailey Shelby, NC	31	33	29	27	24	28	172
Art Blair Folsom, CA	6	1	15	13	10	14	59

DDXD-East

One of the challenges that comes from moving to a new state is finding the time to do what I love—namely, DXing and just listening for the fun of it! I haven't had a chance in several months to submit any new QSLs to the column, but I'll catch up soon.

Moving did, however, help me do a general "clean-up" of my shack. When Cary and I did our apartment shopping and decided to take this apartment, I had my little DX-399 along to check for any obvious noise, and I didn't hear any. Before we moved from Massachusetts, I also convinced her to give away our halogen floor lamps, which I found were very noisy, probably due to their dimmer switches. I also moved my LF-modified Ten-Tec RX-320 receiver because it sat way too close to the noisy SONY computer monitor. All in all, a better, cleaner shack, but the trade-off was having to cut about 10 feet from the longwire antenna due to space and neighbor considerations. Maybe it's time for you to think about tracking down that last bit of noise in your shack as well. Every bit helps!

Finally, a reminder: please do not send your e-mail reception reports as an attachment to the e-mail. I routinely delete all attachments I get because—as good as virus detection software is—I simply won't risk opening the file. Send your e-mail reception reports as an integral part of plain-text e-mail. Thanks and 73!

STATION NEWS

- 740 CHWO ON Oakville – 11/17 0700 (and most of the day) – Coming soon to CBL's old frequency. Open carrier, no tones or voice IDs. CHWO-1250 has been granted license for big band/nostalgia format on 740. Carrier noted again at 0100, Nov. 18. (MKB-ON)
- 1040 WSKE PA Everett – 11/17 2105-2115 – Good, mixing with WJHR with ad for R&N Tire, Hospital Report, ID as WSKE (not WZSX), and into country music. Don't think this ever used WZSX calls and doesn't seem to be // 104.3 FM. (JF-ON)
- 1330 WASA MD Havre de Grace – 11/23/00 – From Phillyradio.com: Peoples Broadcast Network, LLC, has changed the calls to WJSS. (RE-PA) [See 1330 logging below from JF-ON – MS]
- 1350 WPFM SC Darlington – 11/14 2030 – "The Light"; ID with WDSC-800 and WGSS-94.1. (DS-SC)
- 1390 WISK GA Americus – 11/13 1100 – Relaying 162.425 MHz NOAA weather radio. (DS*GA)

UNID, UNID HELP & PRESUMED

- 950 UNID — — 11/16 1229 – Weak one under WROL with WWJ phased with oldies. Slogan sounded like "BBF 95" and heard one New York mention. WEZO back to old calls/format? (JF-ON)
- 980 UNID — — 11/15 1932 – Liner "Exclusive NHL action on the home of the Leafs, AM 980". No 980 on '99 network list. CFPL and CKRU unneeded. (SK-PA)
- 1120 UNID — — 11/13 2024 – Under KMOX with U.S. modern rock and announcers in Spanish. Probably a Mexican. (DS-GA3)
- 1320 WCOGt NC Greensboro – 11/14 2024 – Radio Disney // 1400; very poor. (DS-SC)
- 1400 WKEWt NC Greensboro – 11/14 2024 – Mention of Radio Disney moving from 1400 to 1320. Also heard on 1320, way under the interference. (DS-SC)
- 1570 UNID — — 9/19 0200 – Light rocker ID'ing as "FM 106.7", no calls; waited until

- 1600 UNID — — 11/13 2021 – Someone good in French... KLEB?? (DS-GA3)
- UNID NY — — 11/1 0135-0202 – On rare WWRL silent period, heard clearly many times, "Where the good songs have gone; WEHH, Elmira Heights." WEHH is listed on 1590 and according to the latest log, silent. A frequency change or simulcast with WMCR, Oneida, which the logs lists as a simulcast of 106.3? (BG-NJ)
- 1620 UNID VA — — 11/09 1940+ – Two quick fade-ups with "This is the Virginia..." and "A permanent exhibit this fall will be called the Biosphere". Mostly way down with WHLY and another TIS voiced by a female. (SK-PA)
- 1630 UNID — — 11/18 0550-0620 – (during on/off checks) with steady tone. Presumed Iowa (KCJJ) noted with male announcer and numerous local spots going into the hour, so it doesn't seem like them. Someone off frequency? Heavy local QRM (overhead power lines) didn't help. Anyone know if anyone is testing or reported as off frequency? (MH-NC)
- 1700 WEUV AL Huntsville – 11/17/00 1757 – ID: "...on WEUV(P?) - female voice; "This is...from the WEUV(P?) advertising department", talking about First Friday events; ID - "We're WEUV(P?); music, male artist; "24 hours of power... WEUV/WEUP Huntsville". (GL-NY)

DX AND EQUIPMENT TESTS

- 1450 WILM DE Wilmington will conduct a DX test 0000 - 0200 Sunday February 4, 2001 (not MONDAY morning, but SUNDAY morning). What to listen for: Morse code, sirens, and any "unusual programming". Send your verie's to: Allan Loudell, Program Manager, WILM News Radio, 1215 French Street, Wilmington, DE 19801. Return postage preferred. Allan is preparing a special 25th Anniversary yellow QSL card. Calls: (don't call collect) 302.656.9800. This test coordinated by Blaine Thompson for the National Radio Club.

WTMJ Radio 620

LOGGINGS

- 540 WQTM FL Maitland – 11/11/00 1757 – Football game; "so the Gators get it back...time out at the swamp"; NAPA ad; Gators fan-gate banners, "proud sponsors of the Florida Gators Network"; ads; back to the game - "largest home town crowd ever"... "beautiful full moon comin' up over the swamp"; game continues; ID: "WQTM... on 540 The Team, Orlando's sports leader". (GL-NY)
- 580 WCHS WV Charleston – 11/14/00 0603-0615 – (TLK) "...on WCHS TalkRadio sixty-eight". (DL-MD)
- 590 WVLK KY Lexington – 11/14 1722 – Fair with call ID. (DS-SC)
- 620 WDNC NC Durham – 11/14/00 0706-0714 – "AM six-twenty WDNC..."; gave ID of second station as well but missed it on two IDs copied. (DL-MD)
- 630 WBMQ GA Savannah – 11/5 0133 – Talk show break atop CFCO/WPRO/Cuba jumble with a clear mention of "WBMQ." (BG-NJ)
- 670 WRJR VA Claremont – 11/14/00 0700 – "This is WRJR Claremont, Norfolk". ABC News, copyable on LSB only due to adjacent channel. (DL-MD)
- 730 WSCC SC Charleston – 11/15 1825 – Several "NewsRadio 730 WSCC" IDs. Promo for Knights of Columbus 32nd annual Thanksgiving Day Gobble Walk. PSA for United Way, then station promo "There's only one wake-up call, set your clock radio for 730 NewsRadio WSC." Very fadey signal. First time heard. (RCP-IN)
- 740 KRMG OK Tulsa – 11/14/00 0620-0628 – "This is Tulsa's News Talk seven- forty KRMG" (DL-MD)
- WNOP KY Newport – 11/14 1720 – Good with Cincinnati ad and jazz. (DS-SC)
- 750 WNDZ IN Portage – 11/16 1422 Carrying sports program that originated out of Tampa. Many "Sports 1010 The Team" slogans. Also many local ads for businesses for Tampa area. I placed a call to WQYK 1010 in Seffner (in Tampa area) to see if they were simulcasting on 750. Lady there said they did not have anyone on 750. I listened until 1500 when station ID'd as WNDZ, then went into an Ethnic program. Very good signal. (RCP-IN)
- 770 WLWL NC Rockingham – 11/14 1750 – Several songs heard: "Sugar Pie Honey" by the Four Tops and other oldies, etc. followed by "Big Wave 77 WLWL comes to the close of another broadcast day. Mention of "770 kHz" and power of 5000

Watts. Very good signal with no sign of usual pest WABC. (RCP-IN)

850 WYDE AL Birmingham - 11/15 1657 - Weather; "The Talk Revolution, Y-850" ID. (WM-MD)

910 WABI ME Bangor - 11/14/00 0505-0515 (NOS) "WABI...24 hours every day". (DL-MD)

940 WKGM VA Smithfield - 11/18 Nov 0823 - (Gospel radio station) At 0900, "From your friends at the Ministry Station, we wish you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving. This is WKGM Smithfield/Norfolk/Virginia Beach, a Positive Radio Group Station. (AA-VA)

950 WROL MA Boston - 11/16 1227-1232 - alone at times with WWJ phased with promo for ? Bible Training Center, ID at bottom of hour, and into another religious program. Nice daytime skywave! Weak one with oldies underneath (see UNIDs). (JF-ON)

KBET
1220AM STEREO

WCLB WI Sheboygan - 11/16 0644 - Fair-good with big-band music and ID as "The New Club 950 WCLB" into a run-down of historical events that took place on this day. (MKB-ON)

990 WDEO MI Ypsilanti - 11/15 2000 - Very distorted Dual-ID in shifting mix "...and 990 WDEO". Heard this one and couldn't make out the other one. (SK-PA)

WTIG OH Massillon - 11/15 2005 - End of sports report from possible FAN. Canned ID in shifting mix "Sports 990 WTIG". (SK-PA)

1020 WJEP GA Ochlockee - 11/14 1730 - Heard at signoff; phone number given 228-LOVE. Mention of frequency of 1020 kHz with power of 1000 Watts followed by hours of operation and "Join us again tomorrow for another great day of worshiping and praising the Lord". No SSB; great signal. (RCP-IN)

1050 WTCA IN Plymouth - 11/18 1805 - Station ID followed by several oldies songs: "Ain't No Mountain High Enough" and "One Two Three". Several others heard; poor in mess. First time heard. (RCP-IN)

1070 WHYZ SC Sans Souci - 11/11 1855 - End of Furman U./Wofford Football Game; ad for Snapper mower; mention of Greenville. (WM-MD)

1090 WJKM TN Hartsville - 11/17 0723 - Slogan heard: "Keeping you informed with news from around the state, AM 1090 WJKM". Briefly atop a mix of stations. (RCP-IN)

1110 WNNW NH Salem - 11/14 1757 - Topping WBT with Cuban-sounding pops, EE ID at 1800 "WNNW 1110, Salem-Boston", into SS news. (MKB-ON)

1120 WDUF VA Duffield - 11/17 0715 - Heard at sign-on at 0715. Mention of beginning of broadcast day and being assigned the frequency of 1120 kHz; power of 1000 Watts, etc. Followed by SSB. Way under KMOX. (RCP-IN)

1150 WDEL DE Wilmington - 11/15 2104 - Fade-up as "CNN Radio News" ended. Unidentified ad and then a clear "WDEL newstime 9:04" by male announcer into AccuWeather forecast. Mention of 24 in the suburbs and 32 in the city with a quick fade back into the mess. (SC-IN)

1160 WPIE NY Trumansburg - 11/15 2100 - "The news you need 24 hours a day. AM 1160, WPIE". One second of One on One Sports; quickly cut into CNN News. (SK-PA) [What? No spots for the Rongovian Embassy in T-burg? - MS]

WXRT IL Chicago - 11/15 2111 - AOR/Classic Rock music. Canned ID by female "93 XRT". Last heard as WSCR. (SK-PA)

1200 WAGE VA Leesburg - 11/14/00 1635-1650 - Frequent mention of Leesburg in advertising. "News Talk twelve hundred WAGE Leesburg". Lots of local news. Stable signal, however, co-channel in the background. USA Radio News. (DL-MD)

WSML NC Graham - 11/15/00 1955-2005 - (TLK) On the hour: "News Talk twelve hundred, WSML..." USA NET. Heavy co-channel. (DL-MD)

+ - 11/15 1708 - ID as WSJS; // 600; ad for Tar Heel Auto Glass in Winston-Salem. (WM-MD)

CFGO ON Ottawa - 11/5/00 1614 - Football talk & news; Oakland vs. Chiefs; scores: Broncos leading Jets; Seattle-San Diego; "Sportsradio 1200 The Team"; "your Ottawa Senators are about to hit the ice". (GL-NY)

1210 WPHT PA Philadelphia - 11/15/00 2020 - "WPHT"; "This is Philadelphia, 76er's basketball". Heavy fading, but co-channel not very evident. (DL-MD)

KGYN OK Guymon 11/16 1913 - Country format station slogan heard; "You're listing to KGYN, Guymon OK". Fair signal in WPHT partial null. (RCP-IN)

1220 WKNR OH Cleveland - 11/15/00 2035-2045 - (SPT) "...on the Ohio State Football Network"; "Sports Radio 1220 WKNR". (DL-MD)

1230 WJOY VT Burlington - 11/14 1754 - Poor in graveyard jumble with promo for University of Vermont basketball coverage "only on WJOY". (MKB-ON)

1240 WIBU WI Poynette - 11/16 2152 - Bubbling up from time to time with NOS music; ID. (JF-ON)

1250 WEAE PA Pittsburgh - 11/15/00 0615-0700 - (SPT) "6:55 Top of the Hour"; news program at five minutes before the hour. "...on Pittsburgh's ESPN Radio 1250". (DL-MD)

WGHB NC Farmville - 11/15 0025 - "This is your home for today's Christian music"; ID; Log says they sign off at 2300. (WM-MD)

1270 WCBC MD Cumberland - 11/14/00 1705-1719 - "Red Skins Radio AM twelve-seventy WCBC"; Paul Harvey. Heavy co-channel from numerous emitters. (DL-MD)

WLBR PA Lebanon - 11/17/00 0555-0605 - Star Spangled Banner followed by "WLBR Lebanon" and into news. Heavy co-channel. (DL-MD)

1280 WADO NY New York - 11/15/00 0550-0602 - In Spanish, ID on the hour "WADO twelve-eighty New York". Not much fade; little co-channel. (DL-MD)

WGBF IN Evansville - 11/07 2320-2325 - Ads for Claritin and Geico; PSAs for Red Cross and I-69; ID, then Dr. Joy Browne. (WM-MD)

1290 WCHY GA Savannah - 11/13 1955 - Good with Radio Disney and legal ID. (DS-GA3)

WNBF NY Binghamton - 11/15 0000 - Weather; "NewsTalk 1290" ID; Promo for morning show. (WM-MD)

1310 WDCT VA Fairfax - 11/17/00 0700 - On the hour: "WDCT Fairfax, Virginia/Washington, DC". Asian/Korean language; Western music. DC area place names in advertising. (DL-MD)

1320 CKEC NS New Glasgow - 11/16 1605 - Alone with local news and weather followed by more news on the upcoming election in Canada. Hope we don't have to recount here, hi! (JF-ON)

1330 WJSS MD Havre de Grace - 10/29 1623 - Poor in jumble; ending REL program with ID. I had this one on my "UNID List" until I saw in "M-Street" that WASA had changed calls. (JF-ON)

1340 WYCB DC Washington - 11/12/00 1650-1705 - (GOS) On the hour: "WYCB, Washington, DC"; religious. (DL-MD)

1350 WYOK PA York - 11/12/00 1632-1645 - Sports/Talk; Mention of York, PA in advertising. Good copy until apparent power drop at :45. (DL-MD)

1370 WCOA FL Pensacola - 11/13 2300 - Legal ID; poor. (DS-GA3)

1380 WWMI FL St. Petersburg - 11/13 2000 - R. Disney // 1290, then local Florida announcements. (DS-GA3)

1410 WDOV DE Dover - 11/10/00 0930-0945 - "News Radio 1410 WDOV...". (DL-MD)

1420 WCED PA DuBois - 11/10/00 0015-0035 - "...WCED DuBois"; "Classic 1420"; "1420 WCED, your oldies station"; stable and predominant for an extended period. (DL-MD)

+ 11/16 1121 - ID with a poor to somewhat fair signal. Oldies music with a request show called "Dave's Diner". During one brief fade I caught an ID for WCOJ Coatesville, PA (didn't need). New! (BK-PA)

+ 11/11 2000 - ID into ABC News. (WM-MD)

WHD OH Cleveland - 11/09/00 2140-2202 - (REL) "WHD"; "...www dot whkradio dot com...". Very difficult to dig out. ID copied twice. (DL-MD)

1430 WNAV MD Annapolis - 11/10/00 0830-0835 - (AC) "The 1430 WNAV". (DL-MD)

1450 WCEV IL Cicero - 11/17 1901 - Poor in jumble with WIBM and others with ID as "Chicagoland's Ethnic Voice, WCEV" into more talk in unidentified language. New. (JF-ON)

WOL DC Washington - 11/10/00 0715:0725 - (REL) "...you're on WOL, mornings with Madison..."; religious talk; stable. (DL-MD)

1460 WCEI MD Eastern - 11/10/00 0745 - (NOS) "...on the Music of Your Life, AM 1460 WCEI"; no fading. (DL-MD)

1470 WTTR MD Westminster - 11/09/00 2105-2115 - (OLD) "WTTR"; "Our music is your music...on rock & roll's greatest hits, WTTR". 50's music; lots of co-channel. (DL-MD)

WTKO NY Ithaca - 11/18 0705 - Over WLQR Toledo's One-on-One sports with slogan "Keep it right here on 1470 WTK-Oldies"; into "Homeward Bound" by Simon & Garfunkel. (MKB-ON)

1480 WLEA NY Hornell - 11/18 0720 - Over nulled WHBC with local weather, ID slogan

WRDW
NEWS TALK SPORTS 1480

P.O. Box 211045
Augusta, Georgia 30917

- “WLEA is your station, 1480 on the AM dial”. (MKB-ON)
- WDAS PA Philadelphia – 11/09/001635-1645 – (GOS) “...I just want to thank all my brothers and sisters at WDAS ...”; Abrupt signal level change at 1640; replaced by two or three other programs in co-channel. (DL-MD)
- WKND CT Windsor – 11/14 1730 – Overcoming usually dominant WHBC with slogan “1480 KND, Hartford’s music mix”; into Aretha Franklin’s “You Make Me Feel Like a Natural Woman”. (MKB-ON)
- WZRC NY New York – 11/09/00 1650-1710 – Asian (Korean?); ID on the hour in English: “WZRC New York”; with co-channel. (DL-MD)
- WHBC OH Canton – 11/14 0734-0800 – “WHBC News Time 7:34”; Buckeye Lotto Report, weather forecast, sports update with Jim Johnson; local ads, “1480 WHBC, seven minutes before eight in the morning”. (AA-VA)
- 1490 WARK MD Hagerstown – 11/10/00 0755-0810 – “...on WARK, one oh six point nine”. Copy only possible on LSB under WTOF. Co-channel levels were declining during the brief listening period. (DL-MD)
- 1560 WPAD KY Paducah – 11/12 1933 – Good with call ID and nostalgia. (DS-GA2)
- 1570 WFLR NY Dundee – 11/16 0704 – Fair with local weather for Finger Lakes area; ID as “WFLR news time is 7:04”. (MKB-ON)
- 1580 WTKT KY Georgetown – 11/13 1656 – Very good; “1580 WSAI, Lexington”. (DS-GA1)
- WRDD PA Ebsenburg 11/16 1042 Poor to fair signal with an ID, mention of being part of the “Cambria Radio Network” as well as an FM station. Oldies format. Weather report with highs in the 30’s and lows in the 20’s. New! (BK-PA) + – 11/17 0130-0150 – Firmly topping channel with oldies. ID’s with WNCC-950 and many mentions of “Cambria Radio Network.” Logged before only at sunset, never at night; sounded as if on day power of 1000 watts rather than night authorization of four watts. Checked the next night with no sign of them. (BG-NJ)
- 1620 WTAW TX College Station – 11/17 0555-0605 11/17 @ 0555-0605 – Noted briefly along US 17 north of Jacksonville, with announcer and what sounded like the end of a program on counseling(?). Promo for Michael Regan program “...here on WTAW.” Into national news (didn’t hear which network) with female announcer. Good level with local power line QRM. (MH-NC)
- 1630 WAWX GA Augusta – 11/17 1742-1800 – Local sports WRDW talk about state high school football, blasting in at presumed 10k watts (S-30 on the Drake’s meter) with mentions of “1480” during commercials breaks, yet top of hour ID said “Sports Radio 16-30, WRDW, Augusta”. Latest log and AM Switch give the official 1630 call as WAWX. (BG-NJ)
- TIS AND MISCELLANEOUS**
- 530 HAR NC _____ – My unknown HAR noted 11/2 at 0945 in Maysville, may have been a test of a mobile unit in Swansboro (on US 24). There is bridge construction there, and though not visually sighted, the signal is very strong in that area. Also, Swansboro has requested such a unit from the NC Department of Transportation. (MH - NC)
- 1380 WPNC? DE Wilmington – 11/11/00 0845-0915 – “You are listening to the Delaware Travelers Advisory radio station WPNC 1380 AM, broadcasting from our transmitters in Wilmington and...Delaware”. Female and male voices alternating with fairly lengthy series of driving advisories. No listing for this one on FCC’s TIS database; must be a new one. Nearly impossible to copy at the start of the listening period; ‘strongest’ signal towards 0930. (DL-MD)
- 1610 WNVY506 MD Baltimore – 11/11/00 – “Thank you for tuning to the Maryland State Highway Administration’s Travelers Advisory Radio System...This is station WNVY5 oh 6”. (DL-MD)
- KNNU862 SC Florence – 11/14 1725 – Local Francis Marion University TIS; strong with campus and traffic info. (DS-SC)
- 1620 HAR _____ – 11/13 1310 and 11/17 1050 with male announcer and rebroadcast of a National Weather Service station. Much weaker than the 1610 station at Camp LeJeune, and cannot tell if it’s the same NWS Station. Poor to occasionally fair level along US 17 between Maysville and Jacksonville. Heavy power line QRM. (MH-NC)
- 1630 WPEW741 MD Baltimore – 11/10/00 – “Thank you for tuning to the Maryland State High-

11

way Administration’s Travelers Advisory Radio System...This is station WPEW741. This message will be repeated”. (DL-MD)

OFF THE INTERNET

Observation: all X-Band frequencies this morning (11/17) were noted with at least one station, most with two stations, and 1660 sounding like a GY frequency (Spanish, rock, and third with talk). (MH-NC)

REPORTERS

AA-VA	Albert Arnold	Chesterfield – Yaesu FRG-7700, Sony ICF-2010, Drake R-8; Eavesdropper /T, Kiwa loop, and RF Systems MLB-MK2.
MKB-ON	Mike Brooker	Toronto – Panasonics RF-2200; RFB-45.
SC-IN	Steve Chappell	McCordsville – 3 Terminated loops; Bearcat DX-1000.
JF-ON	Jeff Falconer	Clinton – Drake R8B, pair of 135’ noise-reduced/terminated wires (one pointed east and one pointed west), modified MJF-1026 phasing box; Timewave DSP-599zx audio filter.
BG-NJ	Bob Galerstein	Maywood – Drake R8B, Heath GR-78; Kiwa loop.
MH-NC	Mike Hardester	Jacksonville – Toyota Camry radio.
SK-PA	Steve Kennedy	Coal Township – GE SuperRadio III; indoor wire.
BK-PA	Bob Klingner	New Cumberland – Sangean AT5505 and Radio Shack loop antenna.
DL-MD	Dave Larrabee	Columbia – ICOM IC-706 & R8500 with longwires.
GL-NY	Ginnie Lupi	Ithaca – DX-398; Select-A-Tenna.
WM-MD	William McGuire	Cheverly – DX-398.
RCP-IN	Robert C. Pote	Greenwood – Drake R8A receiver and Kiwa loop.
RE-PA	Russ Edmunds	Blue Bell – Station News.
DS*GA	Doug Smith	On the road near Americus – 1998 Ford Escort radio.
DS-GA1	Doug Smith	Quitman – 1998 Ford Escort radio.
DS-GA2	Doug Smith	Atlanta airport – Sony ICF-2010.
DS-GA3	Doug Smith	Valdosta – Sony ICF-2010.
DS-SC	Doug Smith	Florence – Sony ICF-2010.

WPWA Radio
Unforgettable 1590

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International Jim Renfrew renfrew@localnet.com

DX Digest

6988 Bank Street Rd.
Byron NY 14422-9702

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

The heavy snowfall received in Buffalo yesterday was also experienced here in Byron, although only a few inches here, but I hope it signals the end of the farming season around here! After Thanksgiving I can do some more antenna work in the corn field.

Only a few reports this week, so I'll add a lot of information that comes to us via the Arctic Radio Club. Welcome to David Larrabee - I think this is his first report!

Jim

TRANSATLANTIC DX

- 162 FRANCE France-Inter, NOV 22 0634 - Man and woman speaking, strong and clear signal, which soon began to fade. At 0641 a woman correspondent on the telephone signs-off with "France-Inter" slogan. Clearly parallel to RFO St. Pierre 1375, but RFO was a second behind on the feed. Four pips at 0700 before news. [Renfrew-NY]
- 171 MOROCCO R. Medi Un, Nador, NOV 22 0536 - Definitely parallel to 9575 shortwave with a distinctive Middle Eastern vocal. Signal very weak, however. [Renfrew-NY]

PAN-AMERICAN DX

- 530 TURKS & CAICOS IS RVC, S.Caicos, NOV 18 2400 - On the top of the hour gave identification in EE for WWRV 1330 in New Jersey along with the Turks location and identification. [Larrabee-MD]
- 770 MEXICO XEFTA Los Mochis, SIN, NOV 18 0202 - Musical program just ending; then full ID with call and "La Primerísima, Que Guapa!" slogan. Followed by another music program with phone dedications and lite vocals. Fair signal with varying QRM from KKOBB. [Wilkins-CO]
- 780 MEXICO XEMF Monclova, COAH, NOV 21 0106 - XE pop vocals, VERY frequent ID's, some with address (same as WRTH), power (10 kW), and "Que Buena" slogans. So, they've changed format and slogan since first heard in September. They now have ads, also, after every 2 or 3 songs. [Wilkins-CO]
- 890 CUBA R. Progreso, NOV 19 0240 - "La Radio Progreso ... Habana" Great signal in the WLS null on a new loop. [Larrabee-MD]
- 1010 MEXICO XETX Nuevo Casas Grandes, CHIH, NOV 12 0130. Beisbol game play-by-play; local ads at 0131 and 0200. "La Ranchera de Paquime" slogans. Generally fair with QRM from other XE's. [Wilkins-CO]
- 1110 MEXICO XEWR Cd. Juarez, CHIH, NOV 22 0001 - Traffic report in EE/SS, with several "choques" (accidents) reported; EE Oldies; traffic reports again at 0011 and 0020. Good on peaks in KFAB null. They announce 1000 watts, but sound like more. [Wilkins-CO]
- 1375 ST. PIERRE ET MIQUELON RFO St. Pierre, NOV 22 0650 - parallel to 162 at this time. What a difference thirty miles makes - it took me years to hear this the first time in the city, now it's a regular. [Renfrew-NY]

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- ALBANIA: 1395 Filakë 500 kW 330 degs. TWR: 1925-1940 Mon, Tues Bosnian, 1940-2015 D Hungarian, 2015-2030 Sun Russian, Sat Kurdish/Kirmanji, Fri Arabic, Thurs Kurdish/Sorani, Wed Farsi, Tues Turkish, Mon Polish, 2030-2045 D Croatian, 2045-2115 Sat/Sun Bosnian, 2045-2115 Mon-Fri Croatian, 2115-2130D Slovak, 2130-2200D Czech. (Via Andreas Volk-D, Oct 18, BC-DX) 1458 Filakë 500 kW 4 degs. DW: 2100-2115 Serbian, 2115-2130 Albanian. (DW via Andreas Volk via BC-DX) 1215 Filakë 500 kW ND. R Tirana: 0630-0700, 1500-1830 Albanian, 2215-2230 Serbian, 2230-2300 English - VOA: 0600-0630 Albanian. 1395 Filakë 500 kW. R Tirana, 33 degs: 1000-1100 Albanian - VOA, 330 degs: 0530-0600 Croatian. 1458 Filakë 500 kW 338 degs. R Tirana: 2130-2300 Albanian - VOA 338 degs: 0630-0700 Serbian. VOA 30 degs: 1930-2000 Albanian. (ARTV, Drita Cico, Oct 24, via BC-DX 489, VOA via IBB) [above items all via ARC Infodesk e-mail NOV 13]
- ARMENIA: 864 Gavar 1000 kW ND. TWR: 0030-0045 Sat/Sun Russian, Mon-Fri Kazak, 0045-0100D Korean, 0400-0430D Armenian,



1725-1740D English, 1740-1755 Fri-Sun Turkish, 1740-1755 Mon-Thurs Kirgis, 1755-1810D Uzbek, 1810-1840 Sun Tajik, 1810-1840D Farsi, 1840-1910D Farsi, 1910-1925D Kurdish/Sorani. 1350 Gavar 1000 kW 262 degs, TWR: 1930-1945 Sat/Sun Kurdish/Kirmanji, 1930-2000 Mon-Fri Turkish, 1945-2000 Sat/Sun Turkish. 1350 Gavar 1000 kW 232 degs, TWR: 2001-2031 Fri Russian, 2001-2031 Sat-Thurs Hebrew, 2031-2101 Sun-Thurs Hebrew. DW: Arabic 2100-2130. (Via Andreas Volk-D, Oct 18, BC-DX). [via ARC Infodesk, e-mail NOV 13]

AUSTRALIA: 1611 New X Bander playing 70/80/90's continuous rock music, no announcements. Seems like Keith Ashton's 1611 is on air. Seems like coming from Western suburbs of Sydney. Keith's phone is continually engaged, so can't get thru to ask the obvious. (John Wright via Richard Jary, HCDX 20.10.00) 1629 John Wright reports from Barrington NSW that he is hearing a good signal from 4DB Dalby Qld on 1629 from about 8:30pm local (0930 UT). Another new station to chase. Station contact details are: Address: PO Box 630, Dalby QLD 4405. Phone: +61 7 4669 8555. Fax: +61 7 4669 8399. Email: Enquiries@radio4db.com Web: www.radio4db.com. (Richard Jary via HCDX 21.10.00 and 30.10.00) [above items via ARC Infodesk e-mail, NOV 13]

BOTSWANA: 909 198 deg VOA 0300-0630 English, 06300700 (Sat/Sun) English, 1600-1730 English, 1730-1800 English/Portugues, 1800-2200 English, 2200-2230 (Mon-Fri) English. (IBB) [via ARC Infodesk, NOV 13]

BULGARIA: Radio Bulgaria winter schedule. Transmissions are daily except where noted. 747 Petrich: 1730-1815 Greek, 1815-1900 Turkish, 1900-2000 Bulgarian, 2000-2045 Albanian, 2045-2130 Greek, 2130-2215 Serbian. 1224 Vidin: 0400-0500 Bulgarian, 0500-0530 Mon-Fri Greek, 0500-0600 Sat/Sun Greek, 0530-0600 Mon-Fri Albanian, 0600-0700 Sat/Sun Turkish, 0600-0700 Mon-Fri Serbian, 0700-0800 Sat/Sun Albanian, 0800-0900 Sat/Sun Serbian, 1300-1500 Bulgarian, 1500-1600 Russian, 1600-1645 Serbian, 1645-1730 Albanian, 1730-1815 Greek, 1815-1900 Turkish, 1900-2000 Bulgarian, 2000-2045 Albanian, 2045-2130 Greek, 2130-2215 Serbian. (R Bulgaria "Observer" Ivo Ivanov & Anguel Datzinov, Oct 15 via BC-DX #487) 1224 Vidin 205 degs. RFE: 0330-0400, 2300-0100 Serbo-Croat. (IBB) [above items via ARC Infodesk e-mail, NOV 13]

COLOMBIA: For anyone out there who is maintaining lists of Colombian radio stations..the official government lists of AM and FM stations (incl. call signs) can be found at.. <http://www.mincomunicaciones.gov.co/> Look under "Planes Técnicos de Radiodifusión Sonora AM - FM". They are .zip files which convert to .doc files. [W. Hepburn-ON, on WTFDA e-mail].

CROATIA: 594 Osijek has suffered from frequency instability for a long time. This is audible as a buzz when mixing with other stations. (OA 10.2000) 1125 noted off air; 1134 still operational (NOV 4). (Whitt/Rooms, Sheigra DX exp). [above items via ARC Infodesk e-mail, NOV 13]

GERMANY: 936 Bremen has English programming at 1700UT // 648 BBCWS news followed by French programme produced by France Info. The correct name is "WDR 5 Funkhaus Europa". The Radio Bremen facilities are used as a relay. The programme is a mixture of own programming, Radio Bremen 2 (only on FM), SFB 4 Multikulti, BBC, RFI, ARD Fremdsprachenprogramm. Look at <http://www.wdr5.de/funkhauseuropa/index.html> (Olaf C Haenssler via MWC e-mail news 07.11.00) [via ARC Infodesk e-mail, NOV 13]

GUATEMALA: For anyone interested, I stumbled across the official Government of Guatemala Radio Station Database..it can be found at..<http://espectro.sit.gtm.tripod.com/inventario/inventario.html> (Comes in a .zip file which turns into a .pdf file). It lists all radio/TV stations & private uses in the country ... no call signs, but does include locations, owners, and powers in dBm. [W. Hepburn-ON on WTFDA e-mail]

HUNGARY: 1188 Marcali VOA: 0200-0230, 0500-0530 English, 0630-0700, 1800-1830, 2030-2100, 2200-2230 Serbian. (IBB) 1188 Marcali RFE/RL: 0330-0430, 0830-0900, 1700-1800, 1830-2000, 2100-2200, 2230-0100 Serbo-Croat. (IBB) 1251 The 25kW transmitter in Szombathely which is relaying Radio Győr has moved from 1188 to 1251 kHz in connection with the start of the RFE relay in Marcali on 1188 kHz in September. (Henrik Hargitai, HNG via BT) [via ARC Infodesk e-mail, NOV 13]

PALESTINE: 675 The Voice of Palestine transmitter at Ramallah was bombed and destroyed by the Israeli on 12 October according to press reports. Since the station lost its own transmitting facilities, it appears to have been the 675 transmitter that was affected. (OA) My Cyprus contact has received confirmation from the Voice of Palestine itself that they no longer broadcast on MW because their station has been bombed. No idea as to when they may be back on MW. Have a look under www.clandestineradio.com where you can find a



photo of the attack. (Herman Boel, MWC e-mail news 23.10.00) [via ARC Infodesk e-mail, NOV 13]

LESOTHO: 1197 WYFR to Southern Africa (via Maseru): 1800-1900 & 2200-0100 (local times?) English, 2100-2200 Portuguese. (Rikard Johansson-SWE, via Noel Green-UK, Oct 23) [via ARC Infodesk e-mail, NOV 13]

LITHUANIA: New winter schedule of Radio Baltic Waves (RBW), Vilnius (612 kHz, 100kW): 0400-0500 RL, 0500-0900 Radio Racja (Warsaw) & 1300-1400 RBW, 1400-1530 RL, 1530-1600 RBW (repeat from 1300), 1600-1730 RL, 1730-1800 Radio Polonia (Warsaw), 1700-1930 RL, 1930-1940 Lithuanian Radio (Vilnius), 1940-2000 RBW (shortened repeat from 1300), 2000-2130 RL. RL = R.Liberty (Prague). All programmes are in Belarusian. Project coordinator Rimantas Pleikys has a new email address: <riplei@takas.lt>. (Bernd Trutenau) [via ARC Infodesk e-mail, NOV 13]

MONACO: 702 was still relaying RAI Radio Due day and night in mid October to compensate for the reduced power of 845 in Italy. (Bengt Ericson travelling in the Toscana region). 216 2000 kW 315 degs. TWR: 0328-0358 Sat/Sun French, 0343-0358 Mon-Fri French. 1467 1000 kW. TWR: 0445-0515D German 25 degs, 2000-2015 Sun Berber/Sous 241 degs, Thurs-Fri Albanian 85 degs, Tues-Wed hinese/Mandarin 325 degs, Sun Berber/Tamazight 241 degs, 2015-2030 Fri Spanish 241 degs, Sat-Thurs Albanian 85 degs, 2030-2100D German 25 degs, 2100-2130 Mon-Fri German 25 degs, Sat/Sun Arabic 241 degs, 2130-2200 Mon-Fri Berber/Kabyle 241 degs, 2200-2300 Mon-Fri Arabic 241 degs, 2230-2300 Sat/Sun Arabic 241 degs, 2300-2315D English 325 degs, 2315-2345 Mon-Sun English. (Via Andreas Volk-D, Oct 18, BC-DX) [via ARC Infodesk e-mail, NOV 13]

PHILIPPINES: 1143 VOA Poro 332 deg: 1100-1200 Chinese, 1200-1230 English, 1330-1400 Chinese, 1400-1500 English, 1500-1700 Cantonese, 1700-1800 (Mon-Fri) English. (IBB) 1143 VOA Poro 262 deg: 1300-1330 Vietnamese. [via ARC Infodesk e-mail, NOV 13]

POLAND: The tests at the transmitting center of Telekomunikacja Polska (TPSA) in Koszecin (near Cz?stochowa) which were reported on 1080 kHz in August were made in connection with modulation modifications (DCC). The programme of R. Maryja was aired for this test purpose only. Further tests are planned for November. Koszecin (which employs 2x750kW transmitters) is the only high power mediumwave site in Poland which is operational, the sites in Pozna_ (738), Warszawa (819) and Szczecin (1503) have been dismantled. TPSA is now looking for clients for the outlet on 1080 kHz. (Bernd Trutenau) [via ARC Infodesk e-mail, NOV 13]

RUSSIA: 171 From the late evening of 17 October R Mayak was heard here. Indications are that this was from the Tbilisskaya site. On 18 October R Mayak and test tones were heard. During the following night and until the afternoon of 19 October Radio Mayak was again heard. After that no further tests were observed. Next, Radio Chechnya Svobodnaya (RCS) was heard from the early morning of 23 October. The typical Tbilisskaya audio and sign on pips established the site as Tbilisskaya. The schedule is approximately as follows: 0300-just after 0700 RCS, then break. 1200-1600 RCS, 1600-1700 VOR Russian, 1700-1800 break, 1800-1900 VOR Russian, 1900-2100 RCS, 2100-2200 VOR Russian. It is also possible that a further transmitter in Russia has been testing during this period. (OA-SWE, BT-LTU, VT-UKR and others, 25.10.2000) [via ARC Infodesk e-mail, NOV 13]

SRI LANKA: 1548 Trincomalee 400 kW 35 degs. DW: 0100-0245 English, 100-1429 German, 1430-1600 Urdu, Hindi, 1600-1645 English, 1700-2000 German. (DW via Andreas Volk via BC-DX) [via ARC Infodesk e-mail, NOV 13]

TAIWAN: 747 WYFR (Family Radio, USA) Chinese 1200-1602. 1098 WYFR Chinese 1000-1300. 1557 WYFR Chinese 0000-2400 (also has English 1600-1900 /OA). (Rikard Johansson-SWE, via Noel Green-UK, Oct 23) [via ARC Infodesk e-mail, NOV 13]

THAILAND: 1575 Ban Phachi 145+355 degs: 0000-0100, 1530-1600, 1700-1800 (Mon-Fri) VOA English, 1100-1200, 1230-1530, 1600-1700, 2200-0000 other VOA programmes. Radio Saranrom (Royal Thai Government service): 1030-1100 Thai, 1200-1230 Thai. [via ARC Infodesk e-mail, NOV 13]

UKRAINE: 171 Tests with open carrier have been observed daytime a.o. on 16, 24 and 25 October. These tests are believed to have originated from Lviv. The purpose of these tests is not known. (BT-LTU, VT-UKR, OA-SWE, 25.10.2000) [via ARC Infodesk e-mail, NOV 13]

NOTE: The ARC Information Desk is edited by Olle Alm, Tjadervägen 6A, SE-871 65 HÄRNÖSAND, SWEDEN <o.alm@telia.com>. The ARC has strict requirements regarding the full attribution of sources, so please include all credits in reprinting any of the above items.

Radio Tachira
Primer Lugar en Sintonía
San Cristóbal, Venezuela

UNID's

Regarding John Bryant's 1098 UNID open carrier of OCT 20 at 1437: "The strongest Far Eastern station here in Finland is CBS Tanhsui carrying WYFR in Chinese // 1557 between 1000-1300. Maybe they leave the carrier on after that? Another WYFR via CBS in Chinese is on 747 between 1200-1500, which is NOT // 1557. [Mauno Ritola, Finland]

LONGWIRE REFLECTIONS

Lisa and I moved into our first home about 14 months ago. It's about a mile from the hamlet of Navarino in the southwest corner of Onondaga township. I put up a 600-foot longwire in April, and have been enjoying the LW reception ever since. As you noted, reception of LW signals can be really good, while there might be nothing at all on MW. Sometimes that Iceland on 189 is just ridiculous in strength. Atlantic 252 was like that in the spring, but hasn't been in so often lately. An engineer at work who used to work with over-the-horizon radar systems explains that LW signals travel in sort of a duct between the ionosphere and the ground and aren't affected as much by ionospheric changes as are MW signals. That makes sense. It could be my imagination, but it seems like there were some stretches of great LW evenings during those weeks of almost constant rain all over the northeast last spring and summer. There have been some good MW nights over the past few weeks, though. I think the best one so far was the same weekend that you were in Nfld. There were a few in last night—among them Spain on 855, France on 1206, Saudi Arabia on 1521 and England on 1089 (the loudest). Maybe tonight we'll hear a few. Have you had a chance to extend your longwire yet? I'm really curious to hear what results you get once you make it longer. If you get a big difference when you double the length, then I'll have to have our neighbours over for supper, too! The 600 feet I have out goes right to the property line back in the woods. [Rich McVicar, Onondaga NY - from a personal letter in response to Jim's comments in recent IDXD columns]

CONTRIBUTORS (@=via e-mail)

@Dave Larrabee, Columbia, MD. R8500 w/longwire.

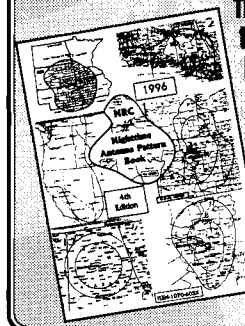
@Jim Renfrew, Byron NY; Drake R8, 500' E/W longwire, Grove Antenna Tuner. renfrew@localnet.com.
John Wilkins, Wheat Ridge CO; Drake R-8, box loop. peakbagger3@juno.com
From: Rich McVicar <ab2fn@juno.com>

The NRC AM Log on a disk.

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DX'er's Notebook

Shared tips, topics, and Internet info

I'm going to try to get a little bit in on quite a few subjects this time, lest I fall too far behind on anything that may be time-sensitive.

AGC SETTINGS

We start with a general question about AGC settings on receivers – can anyone offer Richard any advice?

Richard Hillman <HillmanR@health.missouri.edu>: When is the best time to use the slow and fast settings of the agc?? I seem to get less distortion with the slow setting on noisy stations...I read somewhere that the slow setting should be used for stations below the Mason-Dixon line, fast for the Northeast, and medium for the rest of us (GRIN).

ANTENNAS/PHASING

And we have some follow-up to a recent discussion regarding phasing units.

Mark Connelly <MarkWAIION@excite.com>: "It would be nice if you could use varactors to remotely tune a roof-mounted loop. A DCP-2 phasing unit remote controlling a RL-1 Quantum loop and RW-1 whip might do the trick." It can even be easier than that. Have a 20+ ft. elevation tree-supported or loop-mounted BROADBAND square loop 6 to 8 ft. per side coupled through a 1:1 transformer to a coaxial feedline. For best signal-to-noise, tune/ amplify this in the "shack" with a low-noise regenerative preselector. For a simpler set-up, you can just broadband-amplify it with something like the Wellbrook ALA-1530 amplifier module or an equivalent homebrew circuit (1:16 or 1:36 transformer to buffer amplifier). Put up two of these elevated loops at a right angle and phase them for an electrically-rotatable null. Those of you who want an off-the-shelf phasing unit (rather than trying to modify the MFJ-1026 or ANC-4) may soon be in luck. Our buddy Gerry Thomas of Quantum Loop fame should soon be offering the Quantum Phaser. Watch this list for details as they become known.

Russ Edmunds <wb2bjh@nrcdxas.org>: Am I missing something here? Or by "at a right angle" do you mean one is face parallel to the ground and the other "standing up"? Seems to me if they're in the same plane (i.e. both // the ground) they can't also be perpendicular to each other...I hope that whatever broadband amp is less prone to overload than the old BAX-1's I originally tried for amplifying the prototype 2' loop twenty-some years ago! In my case, I don't have trees in the right places to do this, so I'll probably have to default to Bruce's suggestion when the time comes. I was referring not to the remote-tuned loop suggestion but a prior one using a couple of noise-reduced longwires.

Mark Connelly: The two square wire loops are standing up, like a flag on a flagpole. Think of one flag being blown by an east wind and another one being blown by a north wind. If one loop is positioned for an east-west pick-up pattern (= north-south nulls), the other is positioned for north-south pick-up (= east-west null). Does that clear things up?

Russ Edmunds: Sure does, Mark, thanks! But either way, I don't have trees in the right places for that, plus while my wife would tolerate a longwire or two without much comment, I don't want to think about her reaction to a setup like that !!

Rick Kunath <k9ao@portup.com>: I am wondering what the pros and cons of coupling the two loops through a goniometer would be, and applying tuned amplification after that. The goniometer rotor would control the electrical rotation of the pattern, and could be finely adjusted by hand. There would be no way to tilt the loops as often helps on a box loop, but azimuthal rotation could be achieved. Is there an advantage to coupling through an active phaser? Thanks.

Mark Connelly: I think that electrical control of amplitude and phase produces the same general result as using the more manual method of the goniometer (a rotating coil coupling to two stationary right angle coils). The phasing unit method is more compact and easier to set up, in my opinion.

FREE DIGITAL RECORDER

Here's some follow-up information on the article in a recent DX News:

Russ Edmunds: Thought that the following item posted to the WTFDA list was relevant to both some recent discussions here, and also to Chuck Rippel's article in DXN # 5...

Jim Thomas <oldwestg@juno.com> wrote:



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863 Allabands Mill Rd.

Camden Wyoming DE 19934-2132

Just a further note on the freeware digital recorder...in the unregistered version, your recording time is limited to 44 seconds. If you want to just use it to catch a momentary signal, that 'may' be adequate...otherwise you can purchase full-blown unlimited time for \$11.95. The shareware is unlimited as far as expirations.

From: Jim Thomas <oldwestg@juno.com>

Want to connect your tuner to your computer and digitally record your DX? Here is shareware software that has no expiration date or expiration after certain number of uses. The author appreciates your registration and if you want to donate a few bucks for using the software. It took just under three minutes to download. Its called the Total Recorder v2.1...when you go to the download website, you will have to scroll down to the Total Recorder. http://www.windows-shareware.com/shareware/sound_waveplayers.html

And also, the subsequent follow-up, also from the WTFDA list.

Michael Bugaj <mbugaj@snet.net> wrote:

You can also do it quickly and easily by downloading Realencoder or RealProducer from the Realnetworks site (freebies) and turn them into RA files. RealProducer, the free version, is 4 megs. You have a VU "meter" on your screen to use to check the volume. And if you want to put them on a CD or on a website, it's easy.

Wayne Heinen <Nrclog@aol.com>: Here are two Freeware programs that work well also <http://www.freeweb.org/varie/ninopo/radio/VoxRecorder/index.htm>
<http://www.davee.com/scanrec/index.html>

RECEIVERS

Once again, questions about receivers are common on the mailing list.

Kevin Redding: I have run across a Zenith Royal 780, a longwave and medium wave unit that can be used for DFing NDBs while on a boat. I THINK I have it working, well at least for now, and I need some ideas on some preservation for this unit. The case is VERY thick and heavy laminated leather. The leather seems to be starting to delaminate after about 40 - 45 years or so and it is just starting now. What can I do to keep the leather from coming apart and to keep from destroying the sets value by repairing the case which is in really nice shape after all that time?

WORCESTER LONG DISTANCE MW RECEIVER

Harry Helms <ak6c@earthlink.net>: The latest DX NEWS arrived today and one of the "DX Time Machine" notes was about Joe Worcester's "Long Distance MW Receiver" that was announced in the 11/17/75 DXN. Did anyone on this list ever use this receiver? I seem to recall that Jerry Starr owned one and did a review of it for DXN, but was he the only one? It seems like this radio would have been the very definition of a niche product! BTW, I sometimes see Joe's "Space Magnet" antennas offered on eBay.

Kevin Redding: Harry, Your interest was piqued as much as mine was. I am interested in this thing. Was it any good? I would love to know more about it. Heck, I would love to have one as a collectors item. "BTW, I sometimes see Joe's "Space Magnet" antennas offered on eBay." Yep. I use one on occasion with a Kenwood R-1000. Fairly good antenna. Got the SM-2 version from Skip Dabelstein.

Doug Smith: I have somewhere a reprint of a rather lengthy DXN article describing this receiver. If I can find it, I'll post more info. (but I'm pretty sure the reprint is still available from NRC Publications) It certainly looks like an interesting set, though I have to wonder if a Drake R8 would outperform it?

GE SUPERADIO III

Ron Gitschier <RGITSCHIER@doyle.navy.mil>: Does everyone have trouble with the GE SRIII overloading at XMTR sites? I didn't think to take a paper clip and short the ant terminal to ground... just wondering. Had egg on my face demonstrating mine at the station...

Russ Edmunds: Not just an SR III issue - virtually all radios would do this - hopefully you didn't fry the front end on it!

Ron Gitschier: My Radioshack DX 398, and Sony cheapo boombox didn't overload even on the xmtr cabinet or close to the antenna tower...The SRIII still works great otherwise.

RECEIVER UPGRADE

David Hochfelder <hochfeld@rci.rutgers.edu>: Hello, I'd appreciate any advice and insight on buying a decent receiver, both for BCB DXing and SW listening. I don't have the ready cash to buy a top of the line receiver and I don't have the space for an outdoor antenna. After doing some research, I'm thinking one of two options: (1) Sony ICF-2010 with a Kiwa pocket loop; (2) Grundig Satellit 800 with a Quantum loop. Does anybody have experience with these radios on both MW and

kchj 1010 AM
Delano/Bakersfield

SW, or with these antennas?

Bruce Conti <BACONTI@aol.com>: Dave: Go for the Sony ICF-2010. The synchronous detection can't be beat, even by higher priced receivers. The 2010 used to be my primary receiver for transatlantic reception, including a Newfie DXpedition. Later, consider upgrading the 2010 IF with the Kiwa upgrade kit to convert the 2010 into a receiver that rivals most table top receivers.

David Hogg <NEMCO99@aol.com>: Dave - I paid \$350 for my Sony 2010 about 3 years ago and it does a great job on both MW and SW. The SW needs some type of antenna - maybe a simple length of wire - in order to do a great job. The MW is impressive with only the built-in ferrite which offers good directional capabilities. The 2010 has been around for a long long time - but it is digital and it is solid as a rock. I have mine mounted on a lazy susan with a 12 inch spring sticking up vertically to carry the power cord up and out of the way so I can swivel freely. Someone else will have to comment on using the small KIWA loop. How does this loop connect to the 2010 ?? My main receiver is the Drake R8B with the standard KIWA - also have two AD Sloper antennas. You should be able to get a good 2010 for less than I paid. There are also some other similarly priced receivers that I have read about from time to time but I can not remember them now. Some one probably can tell you where they are reviewed. Do you have the catalogs from AES and also Universal Radio ?? They make good reading especially here just before Christmas time.

Mark Durenberger <mark@durenberger.com>: Agreed about the 2010 and, as Bruce Conti pointed out, the Kiwa filters (which narrow the passband) are a very useful tool if you want to trade audio fidelity for selectivity. I would start working without them however, unless you find adjacent-channel interference to be a serious issue for you. The Kiwa loop has an RCA phono plug output and comes with an adapter cable so you can plug it directly into the 2010. (Hint: if you insert the plug from the external antenna only part-way into the 2010, you can realize the extra RF gain from the front end of the radio.) I'm sure Kiwa has a website. As to the small Kiwa loops, they're a good buy for the money and they "wear well". They're excellent for guys like me who travel a lot and don't have a lot of baggage space for radio stuff. On the other hand, if you want the true performance a loop can deliver (directivity and noise immunity), you'll want to go with one of the better "balanced" loops. Again Kiwa builds one; so do several others. As to alternate radios, if space is a problem, you might want to try the Sony 7600G as a sort of junior version of the 2010; IMHO not as much radio but still does very well, in a much smaller package.

Rick Shaftan <shaftan@ptd.net>: They've been selling on ebay for \$150-\$200. A couple available now.

Bob Galerstein <bgwb2vgd@nac.net>: Dave, From first hand experience, the SONY 2010 with the Kiwa FULL SIZE loop is a great combo for domestic DX, and some foreign DX.

David Hochfelder: Thanks, everyone. I went with the Sony ICF-2010. Can't wait to fire it up after returning from Thanksgiving. Also ordered the Kiwa pocket loop for it, and will share my opinion on it after some experience with it.

Rick Kunath: Let me know when you get it, and I will share a simple ferrite coupler you can make to couple to the internal ferrite rod. This is the best way to couple to this radio. It works for outside wires on MW as well. I have had mine since they first came out, and enjoy it daily.

Bruce Conti: Use caution when buying a used Sony ICF-2010. Earlier production models had problems with the external antenna input. I would recommend testing a used 2010 before buying it.

Christopher Yeats <cyeats@kscable.com>: Please share the coupler project with me too.

Mark Durenberger: Actually I believe the Kiwa loop is shipped with a coupler for radios without external antenna jacks, as well as with a direct-connection cable to plug directly into the 2010.

Rick Kunath: OK Christopher, will do. I will be writing it up and will send it out to you and David next week. I will be away from my computer until then. The thing is really simple, and I will send along all of the things I have learned as far as using the radio with external loops and wires on MW. That may save you some time.

Neil Kazaross <neilkaz@interaccess.com>: In My Honest Opinion...and BTW (by the way)...go for the 2010. My personal opinion from seeing them in action is that they are the best thing one can get without springing for the bucks for a Drake R8B or AOR 7030+. However, those serious communications RX's are recommended if you want to dig out seriously difficult foreign DX on split freq's. I am unaware what they could be had for in the used market, but IMHO, if my budget for a new RX was only around \$400 I'd get a 2010 and forget anything else in that price range.

COAX LOOP ANTENNA

This one was a forwarded request to the listserv.

Patrick Martin <pmwdxer@webtv.net>: Can anyone help him?

Larry Hardie <WB7UCF@webtv.net>: Hello Mr. Martin.....I have read



of you for many years. While reading HCDX I came across your address. I am hoping that you might have a formula to make a coax BCB or SW ant. The type that the coax has a gap in the braid half way around the loop. Please forgive me for e-mailing you, but I have not found the answer any where on the web.

Rick Kunath <k9ao@portup.com>: The idea behind this kind of design was to use the shield of the coax as a faraday shield, thereby causing the loop to respond to the magnetic, rather than the electric field component of the signal. Loops do this anyway, but the addition of a faraday shield can help on locally picked up noise (read capacitively coupled noise.) I experimented with just the type of design mentioned a number of years ago on the 160 meter ham band, as receiving antennas. The major problem with these is the large amount of distributed capacity in the coax itself. If you look up the capacitance per foot in pfd., it adds up quickly. You have an 8-turn box loop, that's almost 100 feet of wire, and at about 28 pfd. per foot (RG-58), you have 2800 pfd. Of distributed capacity. This is in parallel with the tuning cap. Obviously this is not going to resonate any where near the MW band, so turns are removed to achieve resonance. This lowers the Q of the antenna, making it tune very broadly, and lowers the gain. Also, because of the LC ratio of the antenna, its tuning range is severely limited. I do not recommend this approach to loop design. The Kiwa loop uses a balanced loop design to reduce the effects of common-mode capacitively coupled energy. This approach has been used for years in box loop designs. Simply center-tap the tuned winding of the loop, and use a split-stator tuning cap with the rotor connected to the loop center-tap. This helps some with the loop balance, and can sometimes sharpen the loop null. Poor loop balance is the number one cause of poor loop performance. If a shielded loop is needed, I have found that a ferrite loop, i.e. one wound on one or more large ferrite rods, can be enclosed in a non-ferrous metal shield with a slit in the top. This does reduce the gain slightly, but sometimes helps with noise. In general, the reduction in gain and Q of the loop because of the distributed capacity of the coaxial cable used to wind the loop makes these impractical on MW. A good, properly balanced, box loop outperformed these by a long shot at various locations every time for me.

TRANS-PACIFICS/DX CONDITIONS

Picking up on the Bruce Conti's recent logging of likely Tahiti-738.

Russ Edmunds: "Good going... can Tonga-1017, Zedders, etc. be far behind?" Now this begs the question, which may yet be answered this season, but I wonder whether, contrary perhaps to what one might think, it might actually require the 'wrong end' of the sunspot cycle, plus some geomagnetic activity to produce such receptions ???

Bruce Conti: I believe some level of auroral activity is necessary for east coast transpacific reception. DXers had been reporting auroral activity prior to the morning I received 738 kHz. Perhaps it's a combination of aurora weakening northerly signals while providing a low-angle path. That's why in my logging of 738, I thought it was important to note the strength of Mexico on 730 and Florida on 740. Also I believe that Patrick Martin in Oregon looks forward to auroral conditions for enhancement of signals from the southern hemisphere. Here's another thought; transatlantic signals are often strongest shortly after major auroral activity has subsided. So although conditions for transoceanic reception can be outstanding at the bottom of a solar cycle, there's something to be said about the unique enhanced conditions that can occur at the top of a solar cycle as well. Nothing scientific here - just my personal observations. Any other thoughts on transoceanic MW propagation/solar cycle relationships?

Russ Edmunds: Well, your thought process certainly parallels mine, right down to having noted the patterns of some of Patrick's receptions. Of course since I have yet to register even a TA het here, I'm not going to jump up and camp out on 738....my loop is still directional, and still amplifying, and the unamplified 2' loop still works, so either I'm trying all of the wrong nights or the curse of the basement shack is even worse than I'd thought....

Bruce Conti: My wires are a good 35 to 45 feet high in the pine trees. The height of these "short" wires makes a big difference in the amount of local noise pick-up and the low-angle reception performance. I would guess that the basement location of a loop antenna compromises performance. It would be nice if you could use varactors to remotely-tune a roof-mounted loop. A DCP-2 phasing unit remote controlling a RL-1 Quantum loop and RW-1 whip might do the trick.

John Callarman: Don't give up on Tonga on the East Coast. In winter of '67-'68, on one of four Monday mornings in the year when both KDKA and KPOP, Los Angeles, were both off the air, Gordon Nelson taped Tonga on 1020 and I heard it in passing (because I'd already confirmed it from Texas) in Winthrop, Mass. I was using an HQ-160 with a 2-foot air core loop, and I was across the street from the Atlantic Ocean.

Russ Edmunds: Good thought, John, although there's a lot more than 2 stations to have to get rid of in some parts.

Bret Foxworth <rfoxwor1@tampabay.rr.com>: In 1966, sometime in March, I heard Tonga fade up over KGBS LA with



talk program, playing "Red Sails in the Sunset". Location was Raleigh NC. Antenna was a 4-foot air core loop. Back then on MM's KDKA would put their carrier on at least an hour before s/on time. They walloped me that morning. I think I still have 1/4 inch audio tape of this. Rcvr HQ-150. In winter 1971 I heard and verified VSZ-1 Tarawa 844, antenna was the same type loop, location on the 2nd floor of a 6-story apartment building in Mineola, LI NY. They were heard by several in the East that morning, and reported quite loud on the West Coast that day. I sent them a tape and got a nice reply from the English contract engineer saying the name of the announcer I recorded, that's how good the signal was. Rx was the same HQ-150. Tarawa was hetting Rome-845 for a while that morning. I recall in the early '70s hearing the Xinjiang station on 1525 at sunset once while using a loop and Ric Heald's old HQ-129X in the basement of the house I'd since gotten, also in LI NY, though my main shack was on the 2nd floor. Back then I was so close to WTHE-1520 that when I thought China might be appearing, as they did several times, I had to call WTHE and ask them to turn off their EXCITER which usually radiated all night. The guy thought I wanted to hear WKBW and of course I never argued with him. But on balance I think loops used in basement shacks are a slight disadvantage. I know of a phenomenon where high-end TA signals will briefly peak up and be well heard just at the Onset of a sudden geomag storm. I listened down here for the past 2 nights at times and the most noticeable thing was enhanced reception of Jamaica, I heard the 550 outlet for the first time, and poor reception from the North, but I've never heard any evidence of "aurora" reception from here in the classic sense that people up north enjoy. But I don't DX enough to be knowledgeable about that. I would strongly recommend that Easterners trying for TP's (Trans Pacific) pay particular attention to the month of March. My one Australia QSL from NJ (2NA-1510) was heard in March '64, probably the best DX year ever. And in '72 and '73 while in NY my several close calls on 4QD-1550 were done then.

Patrick Martin <mwdxer@webtv.net>: DX conditions/ QRM/ QRN has changed a bit through the years. I remember very well about logging Cyprus on 719 kHz in the late 60s using a 600 foot longwire antenna on the Oregon coast. The QRM was from Jamaica on 720! Heck, I would like to hear Jamaica today, let alone Cyprus. Got em' both QSL'd too. Back in the early 80s, I had an analog radio in my car and was listening arm chair copy of Algeria on 891 driving to the store on the car radio here on the Oregon coast. At home there were all sorts of Germans, the BBC. The good ol' days. Even with phased beverages, that would be a good feat today!

Randy Stewart <jrs555t@smsu.edu>: "I know of a phenomenon where high-end TA signals will briefly peak up and be well heard just at the Onset of a sudden geomag storm..." I can testify to this—my best-ever logging of Saudi Arabia-1521 here in Missouri was in January 1995 right at the onset of a monster geomagnetic storm. It totally OBLITERATED 1520 at their 0300 sign-on. I sent 'em a taped report and QSLed it (after a follow-up...). Oddly enough, I haven't heard so much as a het from them this season.

Harry Helms: Pat raises an interesting point: is the ionosphere less "supportive" of MW DX than it once was? Aside from the obvious increase in QRM, it has been my impression that the band is also noisier than before and signal levels are not as strong as they once were. We're pumping a lot more RF at MW frequencies into the ionosphere than we were three decades ago. In addition to the greater number of stations operating AN, we have light dimmers, switching power supplies for PCs and other electronic devices, etc., all radiating in the MW range. Is the ionosphere over North America "maxed out" in terms of the RF it can propagate at MW frequencies before signal absorption increases significantly? Moreover, is the collective noise from electronic devices likewise being propagated at night, increasing the background noise at MW? One idea I've considered about sea path DX, such as from Europe/Africa to ECNA or Asia to WCNA, is that the strong signals found at the coast have something to do with the fact that very few RF sources are found along those paths and the "more pristine" ionosphere on those paths can propagate signals with less absorption. Thoughts?

Patrick Martin: Great points Harry! I think you might be right about the noise level across the oceans would be much lower. However, I don't get the reception from DUs/TPs that I once did. I remember back in the late 70s and early 80s, stations like 4MK-MacKay, Q would be armchair copy AN with 5 kW. Stations from Australia/ New Zealand were consistently stronger night after night. I don't think all the stronger AN domestics are totally to blame either as the signals on clear frequencies don't have the "punch" they used to have. Sure I still get Australians with S9+10-20 dB but those times are more rare, and also they are generally the 50 kW powerhouses, but the 5 kWers. The atmospheric conditions have changed. With the volcanoes and other junk, it has to affect the DX. We may return to the "good ol' days" in time, who knows? Some feel once a bunch of US stations move to FM as the Canadians are doing, it will solve the problems. I don't think so. Sure the band would be clearer, but the signals still would not be there. I notice few TP's or DUs ever make it past the oceanside these days. DXers inland report few. Back in the "hey day" of the late 70s/ early 80s, DXers up and down the West Coast, Seattle, Portland, etc. were reporting stations like 1YA-756. 1YA just does not have the signals anymore. Here they are poor most mornings. I used to

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hear KMVI-550-Wailuku, Maui on a 6 transistor radio nightly, with or without KOAC being on. It didn't matter. Sure I still hear KMVI with good signals, but takes a K9AY or EWE antenna and an R8 to do it.

Mauno Ritola <ritola@pp.inet.fi>: "Any other thoughts on transoceanic MW propagation/solar cycle relationships?" An oversimplification would be that it depends on the desired path of propagation. The nearer to either of the poles the path is, the better the propagation is during sunspot MINIMUM and vice versa (sorry for this terrible sentence!).

Mauno Ritola <ritola@pp.inet.fi>: "Is the ionosphere over North America "maxed out" in terms of the RF it can propagate at MW frequencies before signal absorption increases significantly?" Here in Europe we have much less energy pumped into the ionosphere than we used to have but still I feel the same about medium wave DX. The signals in the 70's and 80's were much stronger than in the 90's. One thing to keep in mind is that medium wave is going out of fashion everywhere and the transmitting equipment is not taken care of any more. There are very few new transmitters with good grounding systems in Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America and the old ones just deteriorate until they are closed down. The nominal effective radiated powers are just nominal. One good example is R Globo 1220. It used to be heard almost every night here in the 70's & 80's and now it can be called a catch. What about the disappearing ozone layer?

DX NEWS PUBLICATION

This is the continuation of the discussion on the future of the club's publications.

Kevin Redding <lwdxer@juno.com>: "So when will DX NEWS be distributed in electronic form, probably as a PDF document?" Hear, hear! I would be all for it. I believe it would be great. Even IRCA has their SDXM and it's a great thing. There are several clubs that disseminate their info that way. I wish we did it as well. Harry, think the fire got any hotter with this?

Harry Helms <ak6c@earthlink.net>: Kevin, Hey, I wasn't trying to stir up trouble, honest!!! The genesis of this was simple: I sent off page proofs for a couple of chapters today to an author, and I e-mailed them in PDF format. I was just thinking how easy and cheap it would be to distribute a DX bulletin in this manner, so I ran it up the flagpole to see if people would salute. Not too many did. As that dweeby host on "Survivor" said every week, the tribe has spoken. I'm gonna let this drop. But, as Mick Jagger sang on the Ed Sullivan Show back in October 1964, "time is on my side, yes it is."

Kevin Redding: "But many people like to save from several to very many hard copies of DXN for reference, and only some of us have the hardware (parallel to my prior comments) to handle archiving a year's worth of DXN's or more," Why do all you old guys think this is an either one or the other thing? Why can't it be a either one that you want thing and let everyone have exactly what they want?

Kevin Redding: Why is this a either paper only or e-news only thing with all you older members? Why can't this be a both thing and everyone gets exactly what they want? To have people get radical in defense of one over another is kind of bizarre. To fear the future of where things are going is even way more bizarre. Why "NOT" both to suit everyone's desires?

Russ Edmunds: If you did an honest poll, I think you'd find that many of the principals in this particular discussion are in roughly the same age group as you are, if I recall correctly:) While some are, I think, looking at this as one or the other, a key factor here is in a volunteer specialty organization, you have only so many people willing and able to do the work, and adding more media in parallel increases the work on those few, who can't go there, and have no ready alternatives.

Kevin Redding: I'm 43. I think an e-copy will get more young people interested to keep this hobby from dying. If you want things to change, you have to do something different. If the club wants to do paper only, its fine with me. I will still be in the NRC.

Frederick R. Vobbe <fredv@nrcdxas.org>: If you did an honest poll of people accessing info via the net, I'm sure that the votes would be entirely electronic. It would be like saying, only those that are registered republicans can vote. You can vote for Gore or Bush, but only republicans can vote. Not that it would be all bad... <grin>.. I'm just pointing out that the ballots would be lopsided! <grin>

Russ Edmunds: I'm not opposed to a side-by-side e-bulletin at all, if there's somebody who can do the work both timewise and logistically. That pretty much would mean a new person to volunteer. But I don't think that would attract any more younger people to the hobby. The hobby is what makes the club possible, not the reverse.

John Callarman <JohnCallarman@email.msn.com>: Lest anyone think my comment about turn-over time in 1962 was in any way intended to spark a return to those olden days, the key to my comment was the phrase "golden pages." Those who were NRC'ers in the last year or so of the mimeographed DX News will remember that Musings of the Members was printed on the color paper commercially designated as "goldenrod" and IDX was printed on paper of a color similar to San Francisco 49'er gold. Going offset established a professional look that stimulated a substantial

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growth for the NRC, coupled with the technical articles that 1)taught us how to improve selectivity and directivity, among other things, and 2)spurred many more DX'ers to learn about these things and to share they're knowledge. Those who've followed the hobby for more than 30 years remember that NRC was the first to go offset, and it wasn't too much longer before everyone followed. Today, with band conditions as they are, it is not so important, at least in my estimation, to have such a quick turnover time. Really important new stuff, for example, can be found here... and, yes, Phil Bytheway, in Soft DX Monitor (I get both the on-line version and the hard copy)...One element of DX News that fell off after offset was Musings, which was my favorite section for many years; it was like getting 20 or 30 letters a week from 20 or 30 good friends. But this list, the synopsis of it in DX News and the opportunity for those not on-line to participate fill in the gap. Besides all this, even if technology would allow rapid turnover time between DX'er, editor, publisher and printer, the U.S. Postal Service has proved in can no longer duplicate the time from DX'er to editor and printer back to DX'er that existed in 1962 or 1968. I am happy with DX News and the NRC as they are today. It's strong, it's operated by dedicated people, and the club is under probably the most stable, long-run management in its history. Now, I wish I could say the same about the broadcasting industry. The topic of FM taking over for AM and eventually clearing up the AM bands came up Sunday night at a gathering in Dallas Bill Smith hosted for Walt Fair, former Houston NRC'er now in Maracaibo, Venezuela, along with Paul Godwin, myself and three of the four spouses. I suggested that by the time AM'ers give up on this AN-7 bit and clear off the band entirely, it'll be 20 years after the rest of the world has gone FM only.

We'll have more on many of the subjects in the upcoming columns.

ITU clears the way to digital AM radio

posted on [IRCA] via Tim Kridel

Geneva - 22 November 2000 - A new wave of broadcasting is about to reach the marketplace with the recent adoption, by the International Telecommunication Union, of worldwide standard on digital sound broadcasting. The technology breakthrough promises to open up a new era of quality sound broadcasting for long, medium and shortwave transmissions. With the FM bands nearly congested and the poor quality of AM, digital AM radio offers many substantial advantages to broadcasters seeking to recapture market shares. For consumers, the decision means additional sources of programmes at FM like quality with low-cost, simple to use receivers.

Because the same frequency bands based on the same channels will be used and the handsets will continue to be available in the same range of choices (fixed, portable and mobile radio), the change over to the new system will be completely transparent. What will be noticeable however will be the improved quality with crystal clear reception, the more diverse programme content as a result of the increase of broadcasters that will be able to be accommodated in the existing AM bands as well as richer content that the new digital features will offer. "It is a breath of fresh air" said Peter Senger, Chairman of Digital Radio Mondiale (DRM). "This landmark decision will bring affordable digital quality sound and services to the world radio markets that will surpass listeners' expectations and will revive the broadcasting market in areas whose development was stagnating" adding "This is the biggest advancement in broadcasting since the invention of the transistor". Robert Struble, President and Chief Executive Officer of iBiquity Digital Corp. hailed the decision as a significant milestone on the road towards a global standard for AM digital broadcasting. "Digital broadcasting offers the potential for new and improved services to AM radio listeners who will greatly benefit from the existence of a worldwide standard for the transmission and reception of digital signals", he said.

For manufacturers, it brings a second lease of life to older AM technologies with increased market potential for transmitters and receivers. It also makes it possible to optimize the return on investment for dual technology components for low data rate systems applied to narrow-band transmission channels. Considering that there are potentially some 2.5 billion radio receivers that will ultimately be candidates for replacement, of which some 700 million for shortwavereception, combined with an estimated 1000 transmitters worldwide, the benefit for equipment and semiconductor manufacturers is clear.

For broadcasters, the new technology means that they will be able to bring FM quality to AM bands at substantially lower costs. Because the new technology is accommodating existing frequency plans, they will be able to modify and continue to use their existing transmitters provided they are fairly modern. Digital AM will also be much more spectrum-efficient, making it possible to reduce the power of transmitters by as much as 25% while

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maintaining the same coverage area. Broadcasters will also be able to transmit programmes in two languages, a plus in bilingual countries or in border zones between countries that use different languages.

Better audio quality and value-added services for listeners (data, text or still images) will also translate into increased audience interest and increased advertising revenue as a result and new business opportunities. This integration of audio and wireless data transmission will enable a variety of consumer applications, such as station and programme content, local traffic and weather information, news and much more. Because the digital signal is more reliable and robust, it can be nearly interference-free. Receivers will tune to the best possible reception quality of a given station, based on the strength of the signal and the AFS (Automatic Frequency Switching) system, within any of the long, medium and shortwave bands.

Digital AM radio is expected to reach mass market by 2003. In the transition period, transmitters and receivers will handle both analogue and digital signals, thus enabling broadcasters who have large operations in the AM band to opt for simulcast to continue serving their customers while building a new market. Manufacturers are expected to provide the market with multistandard receivers to enable the simultaneous reception of analogue AM and FM as well as digital AM stations. In vacant AM channels, broadcasters will be able to launch full digital AM as the receivers will recognize both analogue and digital signals.

The approval of a worldwide standard should give the possibility to achieve economies of scale in the production and deployment of transmitters and receivers with potentially lower costs to consumers while giving broadcasters the flexibility to migrate to digital AM radio according to market demand.

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radio 1150

Musings of the Members

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

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

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With many members telling stories over the past few months about their experiences in the broadcasting business, I thought a few that I went through would be of interest. In the spring of 1982 when I was living in Springfield, MA, and working at WMAS AM/FM, I was about to go out one Sunday afternoon to jog. On the radio in the living room was then country 1600, WIXY, the AM sister to FM WAQY. WIXY was automated with three ten inch tape reels. Well, after a "WICKSEE country 16" jingle, a song came on backwards! Evidently, whoever put that tape away previously forgot to rewind it. Every third song was backwards. I left for my run, came back about an hour and a half later, and every third song was still reversed. Guess the jock working the FM never put WIXY in cue. Or, no one was listening and bothered to call...A couple months later I was broadcasting the AA baseball Holyoke Millers on the now defunct WREB-930, a 500-watt daytimer. This doubleheader began at 3:30, the second game commenced at about 6:30, and we had a 9pm signoff to keep our eyes on. With Holyoke trailing 13-6 in the bottom of the seventh of the second game, dusk began to set in. (AA doubleheader games in those days were seven innings sans extra innings.) Well, the Millers started a furious rally, narrowed the score to 13-12, had runners on first and second with one out and the next batter had a one ball, no strike count. However, our engineer said we absolutely, positively had to sign off NOW! I threw it back to the studio for the carted sign off and two pitches later the Holyoke batter grounded into a game ending double play...A few years earlier in the fall of 1979, I was working at WKY in Oklahoma City, a 5000 watt full timer with great coverage. (And the country's largest Blaw-Knox tower!) We were on the Houston Oilers football network. One Sunday, the feed from the flagship station in Houston could not be decoded properly; it was barely of air quality. Halfway through the first quarter, the board operator had a brainstorm - he ran into the newsroom, grabbed a \$9.95 hand-held transistor radio, and tuned in KRMG-740 from Tulsa, a 50k station during the day that had nice groundwave coverage into OKC, and was also on the Oilers network. He placed the radio atop the state of the art audio console, moved a big studio mike next to the radio and potted it up. Much better audio! When it came time for spot and ID breaks, he did a cross fade between the radio and semi-decoded feed. Thank goodness the radio battery lasted the entire game! Years later, when requesting a verification letter from KRMG, I told this story. Despite a couple of followup letters, I never received any verie. Wonder if they were getting revenge for pirating their signal way back when. :) 73.