

March 2, 2002 - Volume 39, Number 24 - Edition 1246 - ISSN 899-9733

#### **Publisher's Notes**

The deadline to get materials here for the **Anniversary issue** is just around the corner. Remember, the contents of **DX Monitor** are the result of *your* contributions. Let's make this a big issue! No DX Tests are scheduled at this time. Welcome to new member **Louis Lerner** of Philadelphia PA! -- RT

#### **Editors Needed**

The **DX Worldwide – EAST** and **Sports Information** columns need editors. If you would like to participate in YOUR club, contact **Lee Freshwater** at engwtrs@aol.com

#### Web Sites for AM DX Stuff

**Eric Floden** passes on information from the *Northwest Broadcasters* website:

02/14/02 - Fifty years of AM radio history comes to an end in Nanaimo Friday morning as crews remove the old CHUB/CKEG AM 1570 radio towers, which will be dropped by cutting the guy wires. Meanwhile CKCI AM 1350 Parksville (currently simulcasting the new CIBH FM 88.5) will be leaving the air at 3 p.m. Friday, February 22. All the equipment for both stations is for sale. Details and photos are available at the following sites: CKCI CKEG Thanks to Kam Abbott.

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http://www.islandnet.com/~kabbott/CKCI/and

http://www.islandnet.com/~kabbott/CKEG/

**Dennis Gibson** writes: "Both *Radiostation.com* and the *Kodis Broadcast Station Location Page* seem to be defunct. You can make an inquiry but it results in a 404 not found error. Radiostation.com took forever to update call letters and Kodis' patterns were interesting but sometimes were 90, 180, or 270 degrees off. *Radio-Locator* (<a href="www.radio-locator.com">www.radio-locator.com</a>) has both accurate patterns and projected coverage areas."

From DX Listening Digest, courtesy Glenn Hauser:

\*\* AUSTRALIA. Craig Seager reports that the ABA's database for Australian Mediumwave and FM stations is now available for download at its web site. Simply navigate to <a href="http://www.aba.gov.au/broadcasters/radio.htm">http://www.aba.gov.au/broadcasters/radio.htm</a>. Supposedly current as of September 2001, and is in PDF format by callsign, frequency or area served. There's also a television section, which may be useful for the summer sporadic E openings, though it's getting tougher to ID the TV stations due to networking/monopolies. Well worth the download! (Australian Radio DX Club – Jan/Feb 2002 via Arctic MV-Eko Information Desk Feb via DXLD)

\*\* INDIA. AIR station lists are available from this URL:

http://air.kode.net/schedule/fgsch1.html

No powers or schedules and no future plans are mentioned for MW stations (Olle Alm, ARC MV-Eko Information Desk Feb via DXLD)

# BROADCASTING INFORMATION

Editor: Lee J. Freshwater - 414 SE 3rd St. - Ocala, FL 34471

CALL CHANGES

E-mail: ENGWTRS@aol.com

1400

1480

	CALL CHANGES	
	OLD CALL	NEW
790	KKYR - TEXARKANA, TX	KOSY
920	KBNA - EL PASO, TX	KZMR
1020	KOTD - PLATTSMOUTH, NE	KKSC
1160	WKGE – EAST POINT, GA	WMLB
1170	WMLB – CUMMING ,GA	WMLE
1210	WLDR – KINGLEY, MI	WWJR
1240	WTXM – KNOXVILLE, TN	WJXB

WFAV - FT. WALTON BEACH, FL

WFXW - GENEVA, IL

#### **FORMAT CHANGES**

FREQ.	CALL – CITY	NEW INFO
700	WCAT – ORANGE, MA	OLDIES // FM
710	KUET – BLACK CANYON	ADLT STANDS
830	WEEU – READING, PA	DROPS AC
960	WPRT – PRESTONBURG, KY	SILENT
970	KXTP – SUPERIOR, WI	ROCK // KRBR
980	KJOX – SELAH, WA	TALK
1000	WGOG - WALHALLA, SC	SILENT
1170	KOWO – WASECA, MN	ADDS TALK
1200	WQDQ – NASHVILLE, TN	REG. MEXICAN
1260	KZNI – IDAHO FALLS, ID	TALK // KZNR
1280	WGLR – LANCASTER , WI	C & w // fm
1300	WAVZ – NEW HAVEN, CT	SPORTS - FOX
1340	KRLV – LAS VEGAS, NV	SS TALK
1350	WCMP – PINE CITY, MN	ADDS JRN – STAND.
1370	WLOV – WASINGTON, GA	ADLT CONT.
1390	WJRM – TROY, NC	DROPS C&W
1400	KIGO – ST. ANTHONY, ID	CL. C&W
1410	WIQR – PRATTVILE, AL	SILENT
1470	KKFO – COALINGA , CA	VARIETY
1550	WSHN – FREMONT, MI	NEWS-TALK
1580	KHGG – VAN BUREN, AR	CNN NEWS
1590	WPSN - HONESDALE, PA	REAL C&W -ABC
	WPVL – PLATTEVILLE, WI	OLDIES // FM

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WJGC

WSPY

IRCA BOOKSTORE, 9705 MARY NW, SEATTLE WA 98117-2334

# **WESTERN DX ROUNDUP**

Editor: Nancy Johnson -265 Waterton Way- Billings. MT 59102-7755

E-mail: NancyJohnson@prodigy.net

# WDXR DEADLINES: Each Friday. Please use Eastern Time.

(BB)	Bruce Bacon-Boise County, ID bwbacon@mindspring.com
	Drake R8, 700' E longwire
(GJ)	Gary Jackson-7735 Center Parkway-Sacramento, CA 95823
(DKK)	Don Kaskey-654 35th Avenue-San Francisco, CA 94121-2710
	kaskeyfamily@yahoo.com
	Drake R8A, Kiwa air loop
(EK)	Edward Kusalik-Coaldale, AB

- NRD-525 (modified), 36" Diamond-shaped loop (cut for 1600-1700
  - Gary Larson-2806 Lincoln-Burbank, CA 91504
- (GL)
- (PM) Patrick Martin-P.O. Box 843-Seaside, OR 97138-0843 mwdxer@webtv.net Drake R8, 1500' Eastern Beverage
- (BN) Bill Nittler-Mancos, CO nittlers2@frontier.net Drake R8A
- (RN) Randall Noguchi-737-9 Mahiai St.-Honolulu, HI 96826 Sangean CC radio, Select-A-Tenna
- (KR) Kevin Redding-Mesa, AZ amfmdx@fastq.com Sony ICF-2010

#### OF SPECIAL INTEREST

- KZNR ID, Blackfoot 2/20 Snake River H.S. basketball game against Bear Lake, ID at 2335 with KZNR calls. (BN-CO)
- CA, Fresno 2/11 0435 "Now back to Art Bell Coast to Coast on newstalk 580 KMJ." Heard in KSSK null. Great signal for 5,000 watts. (RN-HI)
- KIDD CA, Monterey 2/9 0606 "KIDD is Magic 63" ID into WW1 AS format. Weak 630 but heard nightly. (RN-HI)
- XEEBC BCN, Ensenada 2/20 2307 with top of hour ID and announcement of being part of ACIR. Playing English rock. (KR-AZ)
- 740 KTRH TX, Houston 2/9 0436 Newsradio 740 KTRH ID then back to Art Bell. Rare. I have never heard KCBS yet. (RN-HI)
- KKZN CO, Thornton 2/1 0900-0915 under KFMB with news and "The Zone" slogans. 0615 news and traffic. (DKK-CA)
- KFYO TX, Lubbock 2/20 0547 with livestock show, ads for girls fast pitch softball. Was over KABC which is really rare. (KR-AZ)
- CJCA AB, Edmonton 2/17 0327-0339 atop with contemporary Christian 930 programming, ID 0339. (DKK-CA)
- CA, Los Angeles 2/9 0400 "All you need to know, KNX 1070 Newsradio" 1070 KNX slogan into CBS news. Strong but with the usual KWAI splatter. (RN-HI)
- KNCR CA, Fortuna 2/11 2050-2105 with "Real Country" slogan and C&W music. Good signal, no sign of XEPRS. KBOZ noted with ID far below at 2054. (DKK-CA)
  - KYCW WA, Seattle strong atop with SNR to 2058, ads, ID then CNN news. Good signal. (DKK-CA)
- CA, San Diego 2/11 0500 station ID "you're listening to 1130 KSDO San 1130 KSDO Diego, talk radio you can really use. It's 2:00 on KSDO," followed by ABC news and John and Jeff Show. (RN-HI)
- KHTK CA, Sacramento 2/9 0600 station ID "1140 KHTK Sacramento, and Infinity Broadcasting Station," then back to Sporting News Network. Drifty signal. (RN-HI)

- CHRB AB, High River 2/21 0100 ID and slogan "AM 1140" into a REL program "Insight for Living" with Chuck Swindoll and telling the story of Abraham and Isaac. Was a very solid signal. Only the 2nd Canadian heard this year in extremely disappointing season. (KR-AZ)
- 1150 KXTA CA, Los Angeles 2/9 0700 station ID "Lamar Odon, Darius Miles the home of Clippers basketball." Missed call & city then heard Fox Sports News. . (RN-
- 1200 WOAI TX, San Antonio 2/9 0629 announcer read "It's 5:29 on Newsradio 1200 WOAI" then ABC news. No KYAA at this time. (RN-HI)
- 1220 KDDR ND, Oakes 2/18 ID with KOVC 2100, C&W followed. (BN-CO)
  - WHK OH, Cleveland 2/17 heard in and above jumble with REL. ID at 0256 "W-H-K" call ID, some KKEE-1230 slop. (PM-OR)
  - CHSC ON, St. Catherines 2/17 good on top of jumble with ID at 0259:55 "CHSC." Music by Rick Astley. (PM-OR)
- CA, Susanville 2/17 0900 out of the mess with "This is KSUE Susanville" and 1240 KSUE into Commonwealth Club of California replay. (BB-ID)
  - KWIK ID, Pocatello 2/17 0000 dominant on frequency all night. Top of hour ID as "Newsradio 12-40 KWIK, Clear Channel Pocatello." (BB-ID)
  - KBLL MT, Helena 2/16 2100 popped up out of the mush with top of hour ID as "KBLL where news is number one." (BB-ID)
  - KELK NV, Elko 2/17 0800 playing oldies all night. SID as "Radio, K-E-L-K, K-E-L-K" and into ABC news. (BB-ID)
  - KEVA WY, Evanston 2/17 0200 top of hour ID as "Country and your all time favorites, KEVA and KOTB-FM" and into ABC news. (BB-ID)
- KWEI <u>ID</u>, Weiser 2/17 0319 with "Radio Unica" in null of local KOIT. (DKK-CA)
- 1340 KATA CA, Arcata 2/11 2100 "ESPN Sports Radio 1340 KATA." QRM was very heavy. (DKK-CA)
  - KAVC CA, Mojave 2/11 2102 atop with Biblical program. (DKK-CA)
  - ?KACH? ID, Preston 2/20 0407 announcement for Saturday morning program 6-8am, woman announcer said something about "Casche" and "...Idaho..." into oldies music "Riders on the Storm" by The Doors. (PM-OR)
  - KCAP MT, Helena 2/20 fair with ID at 0159:50 "KCAP Helena" into net news. (PM-
  - KSGT WY, Jackson 2/20 fair with ID at 0759:55 after KCAP Helena, ID as "This is KSGT Jackson, Wyoming" into net news, lost in the jumble. New for me. thanks to timer. (PM-OR)
- KMED OR, Medford 2/11 1935 ID as "Newstalk 14-40 KMED" and into Michael 1440 Savage radio show. (BB-ID)
- OR, Klamath Falls 2/11 2200 ID as "The home of the Portland Trailblazers, 1450 KFLS the Portland Fire, the Oregon Ducks, The Klamath Falls Falxcons, Klamath Union High School sports and ESPN Radio, KFLS - Klamath Falls." (BB-ID)
  - KBBS WY, Buffalo 2/18 oldies with clear ID 2224. (BN-CO)
- ND, Dickinson 2/16 0349 noted with C&W/adult standards songs. Expected 1460 KLTC it to be KUTI but at 0350 heard a "1460 KLTC" ID. In for about 10 minutes. 2/17 0306 "You're listening to Southwest Dakota's own--KLTC" then into Charlie Daniels instrumental. Oak Ridge Boys "Elvira" a bit later. Big surprise, through buzz and all. (DKK-CA)
  - KCKX OR, Stayton 2/12 2200 top of hour ID as "This is Cowboy Country, 14-60 KCKX Stavton-Salem." (BB-ID) +2/16 0408 with ID atop "KCKX Cowboy Country." This with loop pointed due N/S. Separable from KLTC. (DKK-CA)
  - KUTI WA, Yakima 2/12 2100 top of hour ID as "Yakima's Original Country, KUTI Yakima 14-60, Country Cutie." (BB-ID)
- 1470 KUTY CA. Palmdale 2/13 0500 "Esta es radio Unica" and into Spanish news. (BB-
  - KELA WA, Centralia 2/13 0300 top of hour ID as "Stay up to date with news events by staying right here with us. KELA AM 14-70 Centralia News Country's News Leader" into ABC news. (BB-ID)

- KBSN WA, Moses Lake 2/11 ID stop 2000. (DKK-CA)
- 1490 KNDC ND, Hettinger 2/18 clear ID 1906 then C&W after news. (BN-CO)
  - KRNR OR, Roseburg 2/15 0700 ID as "Stay right here on Radio 14-90 Country, KRNR." (BB-ID)
- 1500 KSJX <u>CA</u>, San Jose 2/14 0001 ID as "Radio ...unintelligible...AM fifteen hundred, KSJX." (BB-ID)
  - KSTP MN, St. Paul 2/14 0000 talk show with call in number of 651-676-8255 and ID as "KSTP Saint Paul, Minneapolis" and into news. Dominant on frequency. (BB-ID)
- 1570 KHPN <u>CO</u>, Loveland 2/17 2359 "The giant of the front range, KHPN Loveland, Fort Collins, Greeley" and into CNN news. Pretty good signal for a listed 18 watts. Mixing with CKMW. (BB-ID)
  - KVTK SD, Vermillion I finally got clear ID at 0759:50 2/18 "1570 KVTK Vermillion, All Sports." At 0804 some local spots. At 0700 CST, not sure if they were on 500w (full power). The best I have heard them, topping CKMW. (PM-OR)
- 1610 WPGR29 CA, Tulare Country Fairgrounds 2/13 1300 35th annual World Ag Expo at the Tulare County Fair Grounds at the International Agricenter, CalTrans Highway Radio on 1610 kHz giving highway information on getting to expo and parking plus exiting. Only on 3 days a year Feb. 12, 13 & 14 2002, for this annual farm show. (GJ-CA)
  - WPSA508\_CA, location unknown 2/16 0830 mentioning Highway 44. Not sure of exact location, but Highway 44 comes out of Redding, CA. Heard very weak on my Icom R-75 in Hanford, CA almost 400-600 miles away. (GJ-CA)
- 1620 WTAW TX, College Station 2/16 0635-0702 Art Bell call-in program, with pause on the hour, with partial ID "Broadcasting from the Campus, this is ..." (rest lost). Best heard on the loop despite the strong interference from KSMH and KYIZ. (EK-AB)
- 1650 KDNZ IA, Cedar Falls 2/16 0755-0805 talk on Mutual funds, over (KBJD-Denver with Gospel music), ID as "Talkradio countdown on KDNZ" and "KDNZ AM-1650 Cedar Falls/Des Moines" into ABC news. (EK-AB)
- 1660 KTIQ CA, Merced 2/19 (ex-KAXW) 1503 with ID "KVVY-1580 and KTIQ-1660 The Ticket." SNR format. Both stations have changed calls. 1580 will be hard to pick up. (DKK-CA)

  +2/20 giving mailing address and KTIQ calls 2038, then "The Ticket, Community Clip Board." (BN-CO)
- 1700 KBGG <u>IA</u>, Des Moines 2/18 0323 solid atop with local car ad, then into CNN News. (DKK-CA)

#### UNIDS

- 1340 Mexico?? or domestic station running Mexican national anthem at 0400 2/20. Any domestics run the Mexican NA? (PM-OR)
- 660 Station off Northern antenna running Art Bell at 0507 2/22. The only station on 660 listed running Art Bell is KFAR Fairbanks. QRM from CFFR and KAPS. Several northern Canadians also heard tonight. (PM-OR)
- 1500 2/13 0530 unID in well with Art Bell promos then into 1st hour replay. Some fading. Heard on car radio while in N. Hollywood. Thought KIEV may have begun reg. service but too much fading. No sign of KSJX; but at ID time 0600, station faded, KSJX then faint. I suspect KSTP or WTOP. (GL-CA)
- 1620 Unidentified Latin 2/17 0004-0102 program of Latin ballads from ranchero to accordion polka music to a short segment of rock-n-roll music of the 60's by Del Shannon (re-done into Spanish). The only announcements were slogans such as "La musica de Nacional onda dios de musica." Pause at top of hour but no ID that I could make out due to three other stations ID'ing themselves. Signal was quite strong on the loop, over other x-banders such as KSMH and KYIZ. Directional path indicated a S/SW path (towards the

Gulf of Mexico/Texas area). Clarification of just who & where this station can be? (EK-AB)

Welcome to WDXR, **Edward**! Hope to hear from you often. The anniversary issue is nearly here. WDXR deadline for that issue is Friday March 8. Don't forget that there is still time to enter the contest! Nancy 2/22 2100

# **CENTRAL DX ROUNDUP**

Editor: John C. Johnson

#### RIDING GAIN

[RCP-IN] Robert C. Pote, Greenwood, IN

MrZenith41@aol.com

Drake R8A, Kiwa loop.

[WS-OK] Wendell R. Stanton, Tulsa, OK

GE Superadio, Icom IC-R75 with Eavesdropper trapped dipole.

TV DeCete 0.0 10.00 with County FING OVE

# DOWN THE DIAL

540	KDFI	1X, Desoto. 2-3. 12:00 with Gospel music. [WS-OK]
	KNOE	LA, Monroe. 2-6 very good, almost local-like. 18:59 with spots for a
		modular home dealer and for Rayville Auto in Rayville. New! [RCP-IN]
630	WBMQ	GA, Savannah. 2-16 fair, briefly heard. 18:48 with "Money Talks" with
		host Bob Brinker. [RCP-IN]
	WJDX	MS, Jackson. 2-16 very good. 18:59 spot for a rental company, ID "Sports
		all day long on WJDX, Jackson, Mississippi." First time heard. [RCP-IN]
770	KKOB	NM, Albuquerque. 2-1. 19:00 with ID, news, traffic, weather. [WS-OK]
	WABC	NY, New York. 2-1. 23:05 with ABC News, ID. [WS-OK]
810	KBHB	SD, Sturgis. 1-25. 18:41 with country music, spot for a western store in
		Rapid City. [WS-OK]
1100	KKLL	MO, Webb City. 2-3. 12:15 with church service. [WS-OK]
1630	KKWY	WY, Cheyenne. 2-1. 23:20 with country music format, "Classic Country
		KWY" slogan. [WS-OK]

#### **UNID Help**

1640 unID

**Frank Merrill's** 2-9 CDXR unID on 1640 with NOAA weather forecast. **Keith Short** offers some help this week. Keith says Frank's unID might be WLHJ Mount Airy, NC. Interstate 77 near Mount Airy goes near Bluefield, VA and WV. The NWS has a NOAA frequency in Bluefield. It is not unusual for those areas in the mountains to have what is called mountain fog during the overnight hours and during the daylight in the morning hours. Thanks Keith!

#### 25 YEARS AGO

March 5, 1977 of IRCA's "DX Monitor" ... **Bob Rice** of Ballston, NY logged YVQO-640 for his 300th station ... **John Bradley** of Denver, CO told about the Denver market having 5 religious AM stations ... **Jef Jaisun** of Kirkland, WA told about the tower locations of some of the Seattle area stations ...**Nick Hall-Patch** of Victoria, BC was tying to ID KEYZ-1360.

#### **OPEN MIKE**

The huge anniversary issue is in just 2 weeks. The CDXR deadline is March 9th. This column was typed 2-23-02. 73, John

E 4	CTE				1			Station"; SID	(WM-MD
EASTERN DX ROUNDUP				820	NY		Horseheads 2/12 Promo for Kim Komando show; ID	(WM-MD	
Ed	Editor: Lee J. Freshwater – 414 SE 3rd St. – Ocala, FL 34471			ON	CHAM	Hamilton 1/30 1955 C&W MX hrd "C-H-A-M"	(WM-MI		
E-n	E-mail: ENGWTRS@aol.com		830	NC	WTRU	Kernersville 2/13 1805 After news, ID, "The Truth"	(WM-MI		
	man 2.14 tr 110 g donto			_	PA	WEEU	Reading 2/14 1806 ID by Male	(WM-MI	
Dead	inec a	re: 8 AM S	SVACINITS		860	MA	WSBS	Great Barrington 2/5 0700 Good with Buffett tune, th	en recorde
Dead	incs a	ic. Omivi	JUNDINI	STARS OF THE WEEK				ID "serving Berkshire, Litchfield and Columbia counti-	es – this is
(DH-I	AT IN	David Hoc	hfioldor	New Brunswick, NJ				WSBS Great Barrington, MA" then news that was cover	ered by
(DI1-1	NJ)	David Hoch	illieldel	Sony ICF-2010 KIWA Pocket Loop				WWDB-PA sign on	(RWK-C
CLATILI	MD)	Million M.	oCuiro	2412 59th Place, Cheverly MD		PA	WWDB	Philadelphia 2/5 0701 Signed on right after WWBS II	). Good
(WM-	יועונטי	William Mo	CGuile	DX-398				Signal w/ calls, studio address, etc. PSA	(RWK-C
CLINI (	7 4 )	Horb Nour	20887			VA	WEVA	Emporia 2/5 0800 Weak in phase null of CJBC w/ tall	k about
(HN-0	JA)	Herb Newl	berry	405 JH Whittaker Rd, Newborn, GA 30056-3033				Figure skating. ID for 99.5 FM and ad for local position	
(DM/I	CT	Diels Vonne	11	Kenwood R-5000,136' lw N-S/ 175' lw E-W				Station, giving station address in Douglas. Mixing w/	
(RWk	-C1)	Rick Kenne	eally	Wilton, CT.				Classic rock. New	(RWK-C
				Sony 2010, 1100' S Beverage, 300' LW	890	VA	WKNV	Fairlawn 2/11 1740 "with more of todays Sountern G	
(CDIA	. 3.400	0 5 111		Quantum QX loop, Quantum phasor	5,5	• 7 1	·	are Joy AM"	(WM-MI
(SDW	-MS)	S. D. Warr	en	1062 Hwy 30 West New Albany, MS	900	KY	WWLK	Eddyvile 2/7 2328 C&W sounding mx hrd; ID	(WM-MI
			Drake R-8		700		CHML	Hamilton 2/14 1920 "Here on the Web, AM 900 CHM	
				Laggings		011	GIIVIL	ridinition 2/1   1/20 Tiefe on the Web, 7101 /00 Grins	(WM-MI
				LOGGINGS	940	GA	WMAC	Macon 2/11 2247 The Michael Reagan show hrd.	(WM-MI
540		WWCS		ourg 2/11 2100 Radio Disney hrd (WM-MD)	960	AL	WERC	Birmingham 2/13 1905 Canned ID "WE-R-C" then into	•
600	FL	WBWL		ville 2/13 2048 "WBWL ESPN Radio for Jacksonville"	700	711	WLICG	ads. 10 O/S-9 on north wire with slight flutter	O IOCAI (HN-GA
				nd of local ads, then back to ESPN. 10 O/S-9 on both		VΔ	WFIR	Roanoke 2/13 1800 "On the Roanoke Valley New State	
				ith wavers (HN-GA)		V / 1	WIIIC	News	(WM-MI
630	GA	WBMQ		n 2/13 1754 Break from Hannity talk show, local ads. Back	1010	ON	CFRB	Toronto 2/13 2114 In slop heard "here on CFRB" Batt	•
			to Hannity @ 1756 "on Newstalk 630 WBMQ" S-9 on both			OIN	CIAD	moderate pitched het, xero beat at 1009.9. 10 O/ S-9	
			wires	(HN-GA)	)			with het at peaks on west wire	(HN-G
	KY	WLAP		on 2/13 0231 Out of ABC news "Newsradio 620 WLAP"	1050	NY	WEVD	New York 2/7 2335 ESPN Sports hrd.	(WM-MI
			then down into slop. S9 on top of slop during brief appearance		1070	AL	WAPI	Birmingham 2/13 1905 Traffic report. Faded at 1907	
				E-W wire .New (HN-GA)	) 10/0	ΛL	WAFI	faded in. WAPI back at 1908 with talk. 10 O/S-9 slop	
660	SC	WLFJ		lle 2/13 1800 "We're the religious talk voice of the				WAPI new , WFLI a night semi-regular. Best on West v	
				as and North Georgia, 600 WLKJ" into relig. Pgm		TNI	VATER I		
				n slight waver on both wires (HN-GA)	)	TN	WFLI	Lookout Mountain 2/11 1823 S. Gspl music hrd; ID	(WM-MI
670	IL	WSCR	Chicago	2/13 1803 Several promos for talk on "670, the Score";	1110	NE	KFAB	Omaha 2/16 0000 Hammered by WBT but still there	
			Back to	local sports talk. S-9 both wires (HN-GA)	)			"KFAB Omaha where news breaks first." Used loop to	
690	FL	WOKV	Jackson	ville 2/13 1806 Blasting in 10 O/S-9 with weather and				WBT as phasor would not null. First NE here. Thanks	•
			traffic, t	hen back to Hannity. Equal on both wires. (HN-GA)	)			McLamon for the tip. New	(RWK-C
720	NC	WGCR	Pisgah F	Forest 2/13 1813 Gspl mx in background of WGN signal.	1130	LA	KWKH	Shreveport 2/13 2123 with WBBR in deep fade, KWK	
			In their	fade, WGSE Hoganville, GA fade in with // of WGST 640.				LSU BB. 10 O/S9 as strong as WBBR on West wire	(HN-GA
				ooth wires at first, even with WGN (HN-GA		NY	WBBR	New York 2/13 2120 "Bloomberg News Radio Busines	
PA WWII		WWII		anstown 2/12 1755 Two local ads hrd; mention of Gospel				"1130 WBBR" quick ID before spots. Also "Bloomberg	
				)			10 O/S-9 best on west wire	(HN-GA	
740	ON	CHWO		2/4 0500 Clearly not a new logging, but first time I've	1140	VA	WXLZ	St. Paul 2/11 2358 Barely readible u/ WRVA with C&	
				letters. "This is Primetime Radio, AM 7-40, CHWO				Thanks to Barry again for the tip.	(RWK-C7
			Toronto		1150	VA	WNLR	Churchville 2/9 1800 In mush w/ mention of "Because	
770	AL	WVNN		2/13 1827 Local talk show "News, weather, traffic on	,			restrictions of the Federal Government" then rising	with "AM
, , 5	4111			able 770 WVNN" S-9 best on West wire. Power then				11-50 WNLR", then singing then full sign off. New	(RWK-C
			Pependi	able , , o , , , , , , , best on , test which i ower them	4460			0.11.1 0.40.404.0 (44.60.44.004.1 10.4 1.1	11

not readible on North wire. Had to be runing day power of 6500 Dublin 1/29 1730 Old TV theme songs; "Your Positive Information

NY

FL WEWC

1160

Callahan 2/13 1919 "1160 W-E-W-C" local DJ with call ins for

dedications for Love Songs. Very soulful black DJ Local PSA's

10 O/S-9 on west wire w/ flutter. "The Tiger Touch" (HN-GA) Skowhegan 1/30 1900 Presumed with ESPN Radio (WM-MD)

ME WSKW WMVI Mechanicsville 2/19 2315-2335 Fair under a bunch of stuff on the

channel. ID at 2330 as:Moon Radio AM 900 & 1160. New (DH-NJ) 1200 SC WMIR Atlantic Beach 2/13 1935 "Dont forget to call in your gospel

favorites, mornings here on 1200 WMIR" 10 O/S-9 on west wire

MO WHB

VA WPIN

(DH-NJ)	David Hochfielder	New Brunswick, NJ		
		Sony ICF-2010 KIWA Pocket Loop		
(WM-MD)	William McGuire	2412 59th Place, Cheverly MD		

Cut to 250 watts (HN-GA) NC WWOL Forest City 2/11 1820 S. Gspl mx hrd; ID; Sign off (WM-MD) TN WETB

Johnson City "You'll always hear the best Southern Gospel right here on sunshine 790" (WM-MD)

ON CIGM Sudbury 2/12 1800 After C&W song, "The news leader"; ID(WM-MD) PA WPIC Sharon 1/29 1720 ID by male hrd (WM-MD)

Kansas City 2/5 1925 Call in sports show; "Sports Radio 810" (WM-MD)

			watts. New (HN-G	A)
1240	SC	WKDK	Newberry 2/3 0021 Morse code faintly readible in mush and onl	-
			for an instant. Heard "DK WKDK" and could detect more code bu	
			that's all. Thanks to Powell for the test. (RWK-C'	
1260	IA	KFGQ	Boone 1/28 1735 Good w/ legal ID, into rel. Prog (SDW-M	S)
	MI	WWJQ	Zeeland 2/2 1730-1755 Rel talk show, local spots, call ID.	
			Dominant and best signal this season (SDW-M	S)
	SD	KWYR	Winner 2/7 0920 Fr-Gd w/ C&W and ID "Serving you and your	
			Family for over 40 years Country 1260 KWYR" also hrd "Country	
1270	KS	KSCB	From the Heartland" (SDW-M. Liberal 2/7 0930 Fair w/ QRM. Sports talk w/ ments of Dodge	5)
12/0	ĸ	KSCD	City, Garden City, KS PSA, & Local spots (SDW-M	S)
	MO	KOZQ	Waynesville 2/2 0920 Fair w/ sports talk, mention of KFBD 97.9	_
	1110	ROZQ	and call ID (SDW-M	
1280	IA	KCOB	Newton 1/28 1710 In Briefly w/ C&W mx and KRZN(?)/KCOB	-,
			sponsoring event at the Newton Mall. (SDW-M	S)
1290	GA	WCHY	Savannah 2/13 1941 Financial talk show. Ex- Disney 10 O/S-9	
			A nighttime regualr (HN-G	A)
1310	IΑ	KOKX	Keokuk 2/18 1805 Dominant at times w/ local nx, m\wx, call,	
			MOS MX, also ID as AM 1310, FM 93.9" (SDW-M	-
	MI	WCCW	Traverse City 2/2 1755 Fair at times w/ WDXI QRM. Sports talk	
1320	PA	WJAS	and quick legal ID at 1800 (SDW-M. Pittsburgh 2/13 2134 Out of local ads with "your memories	5)
1320	rA	WJAS	station 1320 WJAS" S-9 barely on top of slop, best on	
			west wire (HN-G	A)
1330	IL	WNTA	Rockford 2/7 0030 Over WVHI w/ R&B mx, call, "Rhythm of	-,
			Rockford" Groovin 1330" Dominant after WVHI s/off. Probably of	n
			1 KW day power. (RWK-C	T)
1380	VA	WBTK	Richmond 2/1 1930 Ad; ID; Rel pgm (WM-MI	-
1410	NE	KOOQ	Noth Platte 2/1 0920 Fair with Oldies mx, call ID (RWK-C	_
1420	MD	WDJY	Salisbury 1/29 1750 Radio Disney heard (WM-MI	
1450	IL	WVON	Cicero 1/26 0210 Dominant w/ NOS mx and ID "The best music	
1460	IN	WKAM	is on WVON Cicero-Chicago" Last heard in 60's (RWK-C' Goshen 1/26 0100 Fair w/ Legal ID (SDW-M	-
1700	MI	WBRN	Big Rapids 0155 Dominant w/ ESPN Sports, legal ID w/ AM - FN	
	.,,,,	What	Power etc at s/off (SDW-M	
1480	MI	WSDS	Salem Twsp 2/17 0300 Rising up over end of WZJY w/ "AM 14	
			80 WSDS Salem" then I believe it went into CNN news (RWK-C'	
	PA	WDAS	Philadelphia 2/17 0500 Fair with spots and "Philly'sbest gospel	
			14 – 80 WDAS" followed by wx & talk. I think regular WZRC NYO	
			was off – hence three new stns in one evening. (RWK-C	,
	SC	WZJY	Mount Pleasant 2/17 0259 A real surprise in mix w/ end of song	,
			That sounded C&W, then ID by man WZJY Mount Pleasant SC" Rest covered by WSBS First time I've worked 1480 w/ S. Beverag	πA
			So it is possible this was indeed 44 watts. (RWK-C'	_
1520	FL	WHIM	Apopka 2/6 0500 Getting clobbered bt WWKB but still audible	1)
			"You're listening to 15-20 WHIM Apopka-Orlando, your Christain	a
			music station" then shoral music & talk (RWK-C	
	NY	WWKB	Buffalo 2/13 0254 In jumble hrd "WWKB Buffalo" on top of S-9	
			Slop level. On E-W wire. Slop of adj. WCKY. Business news items	
			At TOH after legal ID. New (HN-GA	-
1550	VA	WKBA	Vinton 2/1 1732 Ad; ID by male (WM-MI	-
1570 1600	NC MO	WNCA KTTN	Siler City 2/5 2100 ID hrd in mess (WM-MI Trenton 1/23 0820 Fair briefly in KLEB null w/ local nx items;	ונ
1000	MO	MIIN	KTTN news time 7:27" (SDW-M.	S)
	MI	WMHG	Muskegon 1/27 0915 Dominant w/ NOS MX, call ID, slogan	٠,

			"Unforgettable memories on Magic 1600"	(SDW-MS)
1640	CA	KDIA	Vallejo 2/17 0200 Weak but clear w/ WKSH off. "This	is KDIA
			Vallejo, the all new business radio 16-40, the Bay Areas	s only all
			Business news. Not new but very welcome. Thanks to B	sarry for the
			Tip	(RWK-CT)
1680	FL	WTIR	Winter Garden 2/13 2027 Very dominant O/KYEA wit	h Tourist
			infomation for Florida. "16-80 Information Radio" 20	O/S-9
			regular nighttime visitor	(HN-GA)
1700	FL	WJCC	Miami Springs 2/13 2035 On top w/ SS-Rel mx and me	ention
			of "Radio Luz" slogan 20 O/S-9 best on West Wire, min	ıor fades
			with KBGG Des Moines filling in the fades.	(HN-GA)
A GRE	AT tu	rnout this we	eek73see you all no	ext week !!!

# DX WORLDWIDE - WEST / TROPICAL BAND DX

Editor: Patrick Martin - P.O. Box 843 - Seaside OR 97138

E-mail: mwdxer@webtv.net

#### PAN AMERICAN DX ROUNDUP

- 860 **MEXICO**, Monterrey, NL, XENL 2/21 1245. Have followed this station on 860 for over a week of TOH recordings, too. Listed sked of 1200-0600 appears to be accurate. Although I did catch two full IDs, this station usually IDs with a canned singing version of "Radio Recuerdo" by a female group. Early morning programming is very classical romantica. Poor in phase null of KKOW. (JB-OK)
- 860 **MEXICO**, Cd. Juarez, Chih. XEZOL 2/21 1226. Have followed this station for a week of all night TOH recording before finally nailing a full ID at 1228. This station usually present here weakly in the phase null on KKOW, Pittsburg KS. Often is mixing with a second Mexican All Nighter. XEZOL runs NA at aprox. 0700 and 1300. (JB-OK)

#### THANKS TO THIS REPORTER

# DX WORLDWIDE - EAST

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Deadlines are Mondays. ALL TIMES IN UTC.

#### \*\*\* TRANSATLANTIC DX \*\*\*

- 549 **ALGERIA** Chaine 1, Les Trembles, FEB 17 0540 group chant & drums; poor to fair. [Connelly-MA]
- 558 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros, FEB 17 0539 man in Spanish; in WGAN slop. [Connellv-MA]
- 567 **IRELAND** RTE R.1, Tullamore, FEB 18 0410 English news discussion; poor. + FEB 20 0507 news; fair. [Connelly-MA]
- 639 **SPAIN** RNE R.1, La Coruna, FEB 17 0537 Spanish talk; getting around CBN. [Connelly-MA]
- 47 **NETHERLANDS** Flevoland, FEB 19 0453 country influenced vocal. [Connelly-MA]

- 756 **GERMANY** DeutschlandRadio, Braunschweig & Ravensburg, FEB 18 0415 lush orchestral music, then German talk; over second station (probably Spain). [Connelly-MA]
- 765 **SWITZERLAND** RSR, Sottens, FEB 17 0542 man in French, then country / Celtic influenced vocal with fiddles; good.
  - + FEB 18 0416 romantic female vocal; good. [Connelly-MA]
- 774 **SPAIN** RNE R.1 synchros, FEB 17 0533 Spanish teletalk; to fair peak. [Connelly-MA]
- 837 **CANARY ISLANDS** // **SPAIN** COPE synchros, FEB 17 0531 fast Spanish talk; good [Connelly-MA]
- 855 **SPAIN** RNE R.1 synchros, FEB 21 0436 Spanish talk; fair with local pest WEEI phased. [Connelly-MA]
- 864 **FRANCE** France Bleu, Paris, FEB 20 0517 // 1377 with French talk, music; poor. [Connelly-MA]
- 909 **UNITED KINGDOM** BBC R.5 synchros, FEB 18 0420 bits of English talk; under bad WABI slop. [Connelly-MA]
- 945 **FRANCE** Le Mouv, Toulouse, FEB 19 0448 man & woman in French mentioned Le Monde newspaper; excellent. [Connelly-MA]
- 999 **SPAIN** COPE, Madrid, FEB 20 0519 fast Spanish talk, barely getting by strong CKBW. [Connelly-MA]
- 1017 **GERMANY** SWR-1, Wolfsheim, FEB 19 0446 "American Pie" by Don McLean; fair. [Connelly-MA]
- 1062 **DENMARK** Danmarks R., Kalundborg, FEB 17 0528 absolutely blasting in with Shakira's hit "Whenever, Wherever". [Connelly-MA]
- 1089 **UNITED KINGDOM** TalkSport synchros, JAN 14 0427 fair with talk "Good Morning, you're on TalkSport".
  - + JAN 18 0425 teletalk; fair.
  - + FEB 19 0443 discussion of US radio talkshow styles and personalities; excellent. [Connelly-MA]
- 1098 **SLOVAKIA** R. Slovensko, Velke Zaluzie, FEB 19 0439 Balkan ballad style vocal, then Slavic talk by woman: to good peak. [Connelly-MA]
- 1134 **CROATIA** Hrvatski R., Zadar, FEB 19 0437 Slavic talk; fair to good. [Connelly-MA]
- 1179 **SWEDEN** (t) R. Sweden, Solvesborg, FEB 19 0435 apparent Swedish talk; in tough WHAM slop. [Connelly-MA]
- 1188 **HUNGARY** RFE, Marcali, FEB 19 0432 Slavic-sounding talk with telephone-quality audio; getting through slop. [Connelly-MA]
- 1206 **FRANCE** France Bleu, Bordeaux, JAN 14 0453 man and woman in French, no music was played during the 2 minutes I listened (unusual for this station).
  - + FEB 17 0457 romantic French vocal; loud. [Connelly-MA]
- 1215 **SPAIN** COPE synchros, JAN 14 0432 Spanish talk; over UK. [Connelly-MA]
- 1215 **UNITED KINGDOM** Virgin R. synchros, JAN 14 0458 David Bowie song, adverts; jumbled with Spain.
  - + FEB 18 0437 techno-dance music, English talk; fair.
  - + FEB 19 0430 "Don't Get Me Wrong" by the Pretenders: excellent, [Connelly-MA]
- 1314 **NORWAY** NRK, Kvitsoy, FEB 17 0550 Norwegian talk about the Olympics; poor to fair through slop.
  - + FEB 20 0527 classical violin music; to good peak. [Connelly-MA]
- 1359 **SPAIN** Arganda, JAN 14 0435 bits of Spanish talk; through CKBC slop. [Connelly-MA]
- 1377 **FRANCE** France Bleu, Lille, FEB 17 0119 "One More Night" by Phil Collins; good. + FEB 19 0424 French teletalk; good. [Connelly-MA]
- 1422 **GERMANY** DeutschlandRadio, Heusweiler, FEB 19 0422 // 756 with light instrumental music, man & woman in German; poor to fair. [Connelly-MA]
- 1467 **FRANCE** TWR, Roumoules, FEB 18 0445 segment of classical music, German talk; fair. [Connelly-MA]

- 1575 **SPAIN** SER synchros, FEB 20 0533 fast Spanish talk; over presumed Italy. [Connelly-MA]
- 1611 **VATICAN** R. Vaticana, Vatican City, FEB 20 0532 Slavic-sounding talk; loud. [Connelly-MA]

#### \*\*\* PAN-AMERICAN DX \*\*\*

- 1375.02 **ST. PIERRE ET MIQUELON** RFO, St. Pierre, FEB 17 0124 man & woman in French; good.
  - + FEB 19 0424 comedy show; excellent. [Connelly-MA]
- 1620 **US VIRGIN ISLANDS** WDHP, Fredriksted, St. Croix, FEB 17 0126 soca song "Long Time to Wait"; piling over WTAW/WDND on N-S broadband loop, in jumble on other antennas.
  - + FEB 17 0600 booming in with ID mentioning WRRA-1290 AM, WAXJ-103.5 FM, and WDHP-1620. [Connelly-MA]

#### \*\*\* CONTRIBUTOR \*\*\*

[Connelly-MA] = Billerica, MA (GC= 71.221 W / 42.533 N) e-mail -

MarkWA1ION@aol.com. Receiver: Drake R8A. Antenna system: sloper, broadband loop, various longwires to Superphaser-1 phasing unit

# IRCA TECHNICAL COLUMN

Nick Hall-Patch - 1538 Amphion St. - Victoria, BC V8R 4Z6 CANADA E-mail: nhp@ieee.org

# The Ten-Tec RX-320 as a MW receiver

# Description

The Ten-Tec RX-320 is a small "black box" style receiver which boasts only a power switch, two antenna inputs (one of which is for a whip antenna), power input from a wall transformer, audio line and speaker output, and a serial port DB-9 connector (see Figure 1 for the rear view of the radio; the front panel simply contains the company logo). It tunes 100kHz to 30MHz and is intended to be controlled from the serial port of a PC by a program supplied by the manufacturer which runs under 3.1 and later versions of Windows. The program displays a receiver front panel (see Figure 2) which is controlled by mouse clicks and/or keyboard entry. There is also more sophisticated software (Worldstation) available from a Ten-Tec reseller, Dxtra (http://www.dxtra.com) as well as from Gerd Niephaus (http://members.tripod.com/~gniephaus/gnrx320/gnrx320.html). For further background on the receiver, see http://www.tentec.com/ where you can view manuals and data sheets, and download the program which runs the receiver from a PC. You can also try the receiver from the comfort of your home by going to http://www.ralabs.com/webradio/ and trying a web controlled RX-320 sited near Syracuse, NY.

# A DXers TECHNICAL GUIDE

Now in its 3rd edition (published early 1998), this 155 page book answers questions on receiver and antenna theory (how to improve their performance), how audio filters and loop antennas can improve DX (and hints on their construction), how to build a Beverage and phasing unit, and much more. Only \$10.00 for IRCA members, \$12.00 for non-members (overseas airmail add \$2.50).



Figure 1 -- rear view of RX-320

As you can see from information on the above websites, the receiver has a final intermediate frequency of 12 kHz, but rather than the conventional analog detection of the signal at that frequency, it is instead digitized, and its IF filtering, detection and AGC are all done by digital signal processing inside the receiver. This isn't an uncommon approach in recent high end receiver design, but you must remember that this radio is priced at about US\$300. Of course, that price doesn't include a PC, but many DXers already consider a PC an important part of their listening post, so have the capability on hand. In addition, the software runs on simple PCs using versions of Windows which are now considered obsolete. Such PCs may otherwise be headed for the trash heap, so one could in fact dedicate an otherwise unwanted PC (including geriatric laptops) to running this receiver.



Figure 2 -- screenshot of RX-320 virtual front panel

Ten-Tec doesn't claim this to be a top of the line radio. The specifications are somewhat roughly defined, but in combination with its software, it does boast many of the features of a reasonable communications receiver, for example, 10 Hz readout, 3 AGC speeds, 34 (!) IF filter passbands of 300 Hz through 8000 Hz (claimed to have shape factors of 1.5:1), AM/USB/LSB/CW, variable tuning steps to 10 Hz, memories, and a spectrum analyzer display.

#### How does it work?

Reviews of this receiver (for example. http://www.rnw.nl/realradio/rx320a.html and http://www.anarc.org/naswa/issues/1298/equip1298.html) have tended to emphasize its shortwave performance, and feature out of date displays and options (no AGC adjustment or S-meter, and fewer IF filters). I decided to look at its medium wave capabilities, comparing it with a Drake R-8, and occasionally with my homebrew receiver, and was pleasantly surprised.

The software worked much as advertised, though when using Windows 3.1 on a 25 MHz 386 PC, I got reasonably frequent communication error messages which often coincided with a mouse clicked command. These errors were not apparent on faster PCs running later versions of Windows. Although only 5 IF filter buttons are displayed on the front panel display, you can choose what you consider to be your most desirable passbands of the 34 available. These displayed passbands can be easily changed with a couple of mouse clicks.

Unfortunately, most urban MW DXers use indoor loop antennas which are sensitive to nearby noise sources; most PCs, or at any rate, their monitors, are a noise source at medium wave frequencies, especially at close quarters. Unless you have a quiet PC or use external antennas with well shielded lead ins, it may be difficult to seriously consider this receiver. I didn't have the luxury of a quiet PC, so my tests were done using a random wire antenna fed through a matching transformer with isolated windings.

My expectations were that the RX-320 would have a tough time of it using such an untuned antenna with two 10 kilowatt locals within five miles. In fact, in comparison with the Drake R-8, the RX-320 did remarkably well. A third order spurious product from the locals were observed on 1240 kHz using the random antenna, but these were also heard on the R-8, and even a bit on my homebrew receiver with four stages of front end tuning. As noted below, the R-8 has considerably more sensitivity at this frequency, however. Where the radio failed more definitely was in its rejection of second order products. Using an untuned antenna resulted in a spur on 1670 from my local on 1070 and a Vancouver station on 600 kHz. Similar spurs were found on several upper band frequencies.

Further evidence of signal overload on the RX-320 was that strong sideband splatter had a less defined and denser sound than it did on my homebrew receiver, and to a degree, the R-8. On 1260 kHz, for instance, noisy splatter from 1250 obliterated any evidence of daytime audio (though there was a carrier noted), but weak audio could be heard through the sharper sounding splatter on both the R-8 and the homebrew. However, this was not a common occurrence. Occasionally the more sensitive R-8 showed more signs of overload than the RX-320 when using the random wire; my 900 local showed up on 840 kHz, for example, if the R-8's front end attenuator wasn't used. I would have liked an RF gain control or front end attenuator on the RX-320, as sometimes the audio output had a compressed sound as if it had been overdriven in earlier stages.

Although sensitivity is supposedly degraded below 500 kHz, I did not see any evidence of a lack of sensitivity at the lower end of the MW band. If the R8 or the homebrew heard a carrier on a channel, but no audio, then the RX-320 heard it also. (For example 640, 740, 780, 1220 and 1440 kHz during a February day in Victoria, and 1566kHz at sunrise on the following morning) If audio did fade up, it appeared almost as quickly on the RX-320 as it did on the other receivers. Having said this, using a signal generator with this RX-320 revealed that it was at least 20 dB more sensitive at 10MHz than at 1MHz, and that the Drake was easily 20 dB more sensitive at MW frequencies. In an urban environment, that extra sensitivity didn't seem necessary and would have highlighted the RX-320's poorer signal handling capabilities.

Although the IF filters seemed to be reasonably steep sided, and to have more or less the passband claimed (the carrier on a signal pinning the S-meter disappeared 3400 Hz away when a 3000 Hz filter was used for example), the wide variety of passbands seemed to be unnecessary. For the most part in MW DXing, it seems more important to have good demodulation capabilities to avoid the worst effects of sideband splatter. As with several other receivers, I found the best mode for DXing with this radio was to use ECSS (exalted carrier selectable sideband), by switching to USB or LSB and zero beating the signal. I noted that the display was about 100Hz low in the unit I was using, which apparently is not uncommon. Although the Ten-Tec software does not have passband tuning, the software from Dxtra and from Gerd Niephaus appears to feature it, which would make this approach to DXing even more productive.

The AGC was a pleasant surprise, as many consumer grade receivers of the past 20 years seem to have been unable to deliver a suitable AGC characteristic for MW or tropical band DXing. Even the respectable NRD-535 had a rather slow "fast" AGC characteristic which left noticeable holes in the desired audio after splatter or noise bursts. If it wasn't for the ability to switch off the AGC on such receivers, they would not be much use for MW DXing. The RX-320's fast AGC recovers quickly from noise bursts, and allows the listener to use his ears as much as possible to dig out a signal from under the noise and splatter, which is just as well, because it can't be switched off. I did not find many situations where AGC "pumping" (on signals with a sub-audible heterodyne) was a problem that couldn't be solved by moving to the next slower AGC speed. Front end attenuation would likely have also helped to reduce pumping. The S-meter on the display is marked 0 to 80, so is not useful for reading a signal in "S" or any other units, but it does have a fairly wide dynamic range (I found it to handle -100 to -30dBm at 1 MHz, and linear enough that you could consider the markings to be in dB), and is useful for finding loop nulls, if the noise from your PC hasn't already drowned out the signals.

#### Other features

There is the capability of storing thousands of channels in memories in a file on your PC hard drive. Frequency, mode and filter are stored along with any additional information that you want to enter about the channel. AGC setting isn't saved however, and there's enough of a delay between hearing one station and the next when recalled from memory that it would be difficult to check for parallels using the memory function.

There is also a spectrum analyzer display accessible in the software; a scan takes 20 seconds, mutes the receive and can cover ranges from 3 kHz to 1500 kHz. Although the display gives a pretty clear indication of which frequencies are active, I've never developed the patience to wait for scans of this sort to complete; I can tune through the frequencies more swiftly, particularly using the memories. Can't deny the entertainment value, however.

#### Conclusions

Considering the price tag, this could be a very worthwhile receiver for medium wave DXing, as it has many features found on more expensive receivers, and acquits itself quite well in selectivity, AGC, S-meter and general demodulation capabilities. It has reasonably good strong signal handling, and though it is at the price of reduced sensitivity at MW frequencies, the reduced sensitivity is unlikely to be a problem in urban areas, but might be so in isolated and electrically quiet areas. Unfortunately, the PC and its monitor required for running the radio are well known noise generators at medium wave frequencies and preclude the antenna setup of choice for many DXers: the tuned loop antenna at the radio. The RX-320 is a good enough performer that it might be worth searching for a quiet PC to accompany it. John Fallows, from whom I borrowed the receiver for this test (many thanks!), says that there are relatively quiet PCs and monitors out there.

This receiver has struck a chord with those who like to modify receivers. There are hardware changes to allow full sensitivity to 100 kHz, and tuning down to 10 kHz (details at http://www.amrad.org/projects/lf/RX320LFMod.html).

Palm OS (http://wb4huc.home.texas.net/rx320/ ) and MS-DOS (found at http://home.att.net/~jacksonharbor/rx320imp.htm) control programs exist, as well as the design for a handheld controller (http://www.interlog.com/~cfraser/RX-320home.htm). The controller, or the use of a Palm Pilot to control this receiver may well be a way to avoid the local noise generated by a controlling PC.

\* \* \* \* \* \*

While checking out the above sites, you might also want to look at http://www.kn4lf.com/kn4lf5.html which offers 7 day mediumwave propagation forecasts; you can also get on a mailing list for these forecasts.

Finally, on the K9AY group, it was suggested that those looking for Vactrols to terminate their antennas might want to visit the following site http://www.bgmicro.com

# THE INTERNATIONAL RADIO CLUB OF AMERICA P.O. Box 60241, Lafayette LA 70596

# http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/5792



The IRCA is a non-profit organization devoted to the hobby of hearing distant stations on the Broadcast Band (510-1720 kHz). **DX Monitor**, the official publication of the IRCA, is published in "soft" form 40 times a year (weekly from September to April, twice monthly from May to August) and in printed form 35 times a year (weekly September to April, monthly May to August). **DX Monitor** contains members' loggings, articles on radio stations, receiver reviews, technical articles, DX tips, and other material of interest to Broadcast Band DX hobbyists. IRCA is a member of ANARC, the Association of North American Radio Clubs.

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