





# AM Switch

**Bill Hale** w\_r\_hale@sbcglobal.net  
6124 Roaring Springs Drive  
North Richland Hills, TX 76180-5552



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

## CALL LETTER CHANGES

	<u>Old Call</u>			<u>New Call</u>
910	WABI	ME	Bangor	WAEI
940	KNNZ	UT	Cedar City	KOBY
1420	WENN	AL	Tuscaloosa	WACT



## CPs ON THE AIR

1160	WIWA	FL	St. Cloud - CP for U2 2500/500 is on the air at N28-16-15/81-20-00. The nighttime pattern throws a lobe due east with a smaller lobe due west.
1200	WJES	SC	Saluda - CP for U1 1000/4 CH 6100 is on the air at N33-57-27 W81-47-34.
1280	WNAM	WI	Neenah-Menasha - CP for U4 5000/5000 is on the air. The day pattern remains unchanged (favoring the northeast), except for the size.
1340	WSOY	IL	Decatur - CP to move to a new tower at N39-48-54 W89-00-08 is on the air while remaining U1 1000/1000,
1580	WTTN	WI	Columbus - CP for U5 5000/4 CH 800 is on the air from two towers at N43-20-05 W89-09-56, moving from Watertown. The day pattern is a simple bow-tie figure headed SSE and WNW. Actually, we don't have a pattern designation for DA-days and non-DA nights and CH, so U5 will have to do for now.

## ACTIONS

1280	KPTQ	WA	Spokane - CP granted for U4 5000/125.
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## AMENDMENTS TO APPLICATIONS

1340	NEW	CA	Jackson - Initial application for U1 1000/1000 has been amended to read U1 250/1000.
1570	WNKX	TN	Centerville - Licensed for D1 5000/0, WKNX applied for U1 1000/140 along with a change in CoL to Lobelville. This amendment requests U1 1000/66, also at Lobelville.

## APPLICATIONS/CPs DISMISSED

970	WESO	MA	Southbridge - Application denied for a new FM translator in order to augment their 21 Watt night signal. The FCC has been approving some waivers to allow AMs to operate on FM translators, but this would have been a precedent by building a new station for the sole purpose of relaying the AM signal. Now, if they could find an already existing translator ...
1200	WAMB	TN	Nashville - Application for U2 5000/120 CH 3800.
1540	KGBC	TX	Galveston - Application to move to Dayton, Texas with U7 5000/180 CH 3500.
1550	WLFP	PA	Reserve Township - Station has a CP moving here from Braddock with U4 2000/12. They then applied for U4 4000/32, which has been dismissed.

## LICENSE CANCELLATIONS/CALL LETTERS DELETED

540	KJL	WY	Pine Bluffs *
780	KCEG	CO	Fountain *
890	KJME	CO	Fountain *

\* - These three facilities were unbuilt CPs (all licensed to the same applicant) whose time limit to build had run out. Extensions were applied for, but denied.

1520	WOLY	MI	Battle Creek - FCC refused to renew their license.
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## APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

1520	NEW	AL	Fultondale - Applies for U4 6000/400.
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**HEAR AND THAR**

- ☐ Reported as being silent: **WBUC-1420 Buckhannon, West Virginia; KGBC-1540 Galveston, Texas.**
- ☐ **Fines:** \$3,200 forfeiture against **WKKX-1600 Wheeling, West Virginia** for willfully violating Commission's rules by broadcasting a live telephone conversation without giving prior notice to the individual being called of the Licensee's intention to do so.
- ☐ Thanks to **Shawn Axelrod** and **Wayne Heinen**.

**GRAVEYARD DX UPDATE**

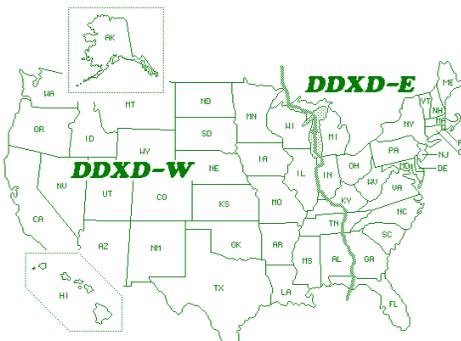
\* record held by DXer from North America (excluding Alaska)  
 + record held by a DXer in USA/Canada where a Canadian/USA record exceeds that mileage

					<u>Miles</u>
<b>1230 kHz:</b>					
WOLS	SC	Florence	Russ Edmunds	Blue Bell, PA	+ 477
<b>1340 kHz:</b>					
WTRC	IN	Elkhart	Russ Edmunds	Blue Bell, PA	+ 568
WWNH	NH	Madbury	Russ Edmunds	Blue Bell, PA	* 307
<b>1400 kHz:</b>					
WDUZ	WI	Green Bay	Russ Edmunds	Blue Bell, PA	+ 716
<b>1450 kHz:</b>					
WQKC	IN	Jeffersonville	Russ Edmunds	Blue Bell, PA	+ 577
WATA	NC	Boone	Russ Edmunds	Blue Bell, PA	443
<b>1490 kHz:</b>					
CFPS	ON	Port Elgin	Russ Edmunds	Blue Bell, PA	+ 430

***Domestic DX Digest***

**West: Greg Harris** west\_logs@yahoo.com *(Division line is between East and Central time zones)*  
 262 Juniper St. - Park Forest, IL 60466-1725

**East: Mike Brooker** aum108@idirect.com  
 99 Wychcrest Ave - Toronto, Ontario M6G 3X8 CANADA



**DX Catches in the U. S. and Canada, with 24-hr. ELT**

**DDXD-West**

FROM THE VAST WESTLAND

Your humble editor is supposed to come up with some kind of DX profundity in this space, but I have none. Therefore my gratitude to those who sent in loggings, on with the show.

Reporters

- RA-NV** Rene Auvray. Henderson. G.E. P2900A
- BD-WI** Bill Dvorak, Madison. Drake R8B, Quantum QX Pro loop.
- DP-HI** Dale Park DXing in E. Honolulu. Honda car radio.
- SP-WI** Sherry Paskiewicz. Manitowoc. Grundig YB300
- JW-CO** John Wilkins Wheat Ridge. Drake R8 /4 foot box loop.
- Ye Ed-IL** Greg Harris Park Forest. Icom R75/Quantum Loop or SRF15 ultralite RX

Station News

**940 WFAW WI Fort Atkinson.** This talk station has made two changes in its weekday schedule effective 2/26. Joe Scarborough is now on from 10 AM to 12 noon Central, replacing Neil Boortz. The Lou Dobbs Radio Show takes over the 1 to 3 PM Central time slot replacing Bill O'Reilly, who has given up his radio show. (BD-WI)



## Presumed, Tentative. UnID

- 1390 UNID 1920. Address in Farmington. Valentines Day noted. Country music. Suddenly a station in Spanish came up. Any clues? **(RA-NV)**
- Regular DX Loggings (Times in ELT)
- 580 KMJ CA **Fresno.** 2/8 2323. Ads on radio sales. Local sport team (Bulldogs) to be aired. Strong then weekend. **(RA-NV)**
- 630 KFXD ID **Boise.** 2.9 0000. Mentioning CBS2 eyewitness news. Golds Gym: Boise Spectrum ad's. Intro an NBA broadcast. QRM fighting. **(RA-NV)**
- 780 WJAG NE **Norfolk** 2/14 0800. Fair under WBBM with "WJAG Skywatch Weather". **(JW-CO)**
- 950 KAHI CA **Auburn.** 2/8 (time?) Ad for a Mexican resteraunt. Water company offer. Call ID with QRM. First time. **(RA-NV)**
- 970 KQAQ MN **Austin.** 2/21 2159. Fair to good and in the clear, with local WHA completely nulled. Classic country format, legal ID, Fox news at ToH. Needed call change, actually a return to calls it had for many years, ex-KNFX. **(BD-WI)**
- 970 WGTK KY **Louisville.** 2/25 0802. "It's 8:02 on WGTK" by male announcer. Then into SRN news. Briefly booming signal then gone. New. **(Ed-IL)**
- 1010 KXXT AZ **Tolleson** 2/22 1959. Legal ID at 1959:50: "Bringing the Word of the Lord to Arizona with 1010 AM KXXT Tolleson-Phoenix," followed by "The Power in the Word Broadcast". Good signal but mixing with others. **(JW-CO)**
- 1020 KCKN NM **Roswell.** 2/8 2314. Country & Western songs with call ID and music news in between. Signal picking up. **(RA-NV)**
- 1110 WGNZ OH **Fairborn.** 2/24 0725. "Good News 1110 WGNZ" by male announcer. Briefly strong then faded. QRM from KFAB. Heard on SRF15. New. **(Ed-IL)**
- 1180 KERN CA **WascoGreenacres** 2/14 2345 "Best of Dave Ramsey" // KAOI-1110 and one second ahead of KQNG-570, net ads; ad for Uniglobe Golden Empire Travel on Chester Av., promo for stn website KERNradio.com, PSA for Girl Scout Cookies, PSA for Kern County Sports Hall of Fame dinner, promo for Sean Hannity "on KERN Radio AM. Now on 11-80 AM..."; back to Ramsey. Ex-KERI; KERN only logged as tentative when it was on 1410. (The usual occupant of this channel is the second harmonic of KSSK-590.) FAIR to GOOD. **(DP-HI\*)**
- 1260 KGIL CA **Beverly Hills** 2/20 1000. Gal with ID at 1000:10: "This is KGIL Beverly Hills - Los Angeles...southern California on AM 1260 and 540..." possibly followed by AP news. Fair but QRM from several. A needed call change here, last heard as KKGO. **(JW-CO)**
- 1270 KINN NM **Alamagordo** 2/14 0859. "AM 1270 K-Talk Radio" slogan, followed by legal ID by male voice at 0859:50: "Celebrating 20 years of service to the Tularosa Basin...on 1270 AM KINN Alamagordo;" ABC news was next. Rough in QRM. **(JW-CO)**
- 1300 KGLO IA **Mason City** 2-23 2220 EST, promo for upcoming games, "AM 1300 KGLO." Not common. **(SP-WI)**
- 1310 KXAM AZ **Mesa.** 2/8 2104. Advertising for a drawing. Dave Ramsey speaking for an ad mentioning "Independent 1310 KXAM" **(RA-NV)**
- 1380 KTKZ CA **Sacramento.** 2/8 1917. QRM with call ID followed by a talk show. First Time. **(RA-NV)**
- 1430 KRGJ NE **Grand Island** 2/25 0829. Announcer babble, call letter ID. Spotty and generally poor in QRM with local KEZW nulled. **(JW-CO)**
- 1430 KLO UT **Ogden** 2/25 0849. Local spots, traffic, and call letter ID; back to "Morning in America" at 0851; noted legal ID at 0859:53: "America's World Class Talkers on AM 1430 KLO Ogden-Provo-Salt Lake City". Fair/good in KEZW null. **(JW-CO)**
- 1450 KZNU UT **St. George** 2/23 0859. "Fox News 1450 KZNU St. George," then news, Fox I presume. Barely readable in the zoo. **(JW-CO)**
- 1480 WGVU MI **Kentwood.** 2/20 0806. "It's 8:06 on WGVU" by male announcer and local news items. Fair. New. **(Ed-IL)**
- 1590 KLIV CA **San Jose** 2/25 0018 Man w/San Jose area and Santa Cruz Mountains traffic, South Bay temperatures, plug for "Earth and Sky" in 30 seconds, TC "KLIV newstime 9:20," faded out during promo. FAIR to VERY POOR; over/under KKZZ. **(DP-HI\*)**



1640 KDIA CA Vallejo 2/25 0001 M plugging upcoming prgms "on AM 16-40 KDIA," network nx, at 0 003 local host with slogan "AM 16-40 The Light, at the top of the dial," show promos. VERY POOR to POOR (DP-HI\*)

## DDXD-East

REPORTERS



BC-QC Bogdan Chiochiu, Pierrefonds - Sanyo MCD-S830  
 SC-IN Steve Chappell McCordsville - Chrysler car radio, K9AY lop antenna  
 HF-MI Harold Frodge, Midland - Drake R8B + 125 ft. bow-tie; 85 ft. RW & 180 ft. center-fed RW  
 MH-NC Mike Hardester, Jacksonville - Toyota Camry car radio  
 KK-VA Kraig Krist, Masassas - NRD-545, homemade 134 foot multiband antenna running NW to SE.  
 GS-ON Greg Shoom, Toronto - Sangean DT-400W  
 MKB-ON Mike Brooker, Toronto - Grundig G5, Grundig YB-400PE, Sony SRF-39FP, Panasonic RF-2200 (receiver emeritus)

## LOGGINGS

600 WICC CT Bridgeport - 2/22 2115 - "WICC Six Hundred" strongly breaking through a few other signals with CKAT megapest in North Bay, ON not much in evidence at this time. Regular, though not that easily heard as in the past, mostly due to the rather poor conditions. (BC-QC)

630 WMAL DC Washington - 2/26 1725 - "Six thirty WMAL traffic". Sean Hannity show. 1729 ID as "News talk six thirty WMAL" into news with Mark Weaver. 1735 back to Hannity. (KK-VA)

640 WWJZ NJ Mount Holly - 2/25 1725 - "Radio Disney number one" (repeated several times) by kiddie-voice announcer. Ad for High School Musical 3. 1731 "Radio Disney Jonas Brothers..." into song "Accidentally In Love". (KK-VA)

670 WSCR IL Chicago - 2/22 1725 - Call in sports show. ID as "WSCR six seventy 'The Score'" into ad for Jennings Chevy. (KK-VA)

680 WPTF NC Raleigh - 2/21 1725 - Mixing with WCBM with "Food Guy and Marcy" talking about cooking shrimp in the shell mixing with song from "Valley of the Dolls" movie. Ad for Triangle Home Exteriors. ID at 1800: "News, Accu-weather and more WPTF dot com. Listen live now. News talk six eighty WPTF Raleigh..." (KK-VA)

WCBM MD Baltimore - 2/21 1731 - Mixing with WPTF with ID as "...when news breaks six eighty WCBM". (KK-VA)

690 WZAP VA Bristol - 2/20 1725 - Mixing with FF talk (probably CINF). Man with religious preaching. Gives address in "Nickelsville VA". Music "Onward Christian Soldiers". 1730 "WZAP News" and "WZAP skywatch", "Here's the WZAP weather forecast..." (KK-VA)

980 CKNW BC New Westminster - 2/18 2121 - "CKNW" by rapid fire big city announcer and deep in mix with others still not identified. Nearly missed this one and had to slow the tape way way down to dig it out. New! (SC-IN)

KDSJ SD Deadwood - 2/19 2305 - Poor and alone out of ABC News, "Sports Scoreboard sponsored by...on KDSJ." New! (SC-IN)

CFPL ON London - 2/22 0504 - Very choppy, "News Talk Sports AM 980, now it's time to get back into the group (groove?) with ?. owner of ? in London." New! (SC-IN)

1100 WISS WI Berlin - 2/22 0800 - creaming nulled WTAM with ToH ID: "full service radio for your life...Big Red 1100, WISS Berlin-Oshkosh" into USA Radio news, 0805 promo for "Big Red Listener Appreciation Party" to celebrate WISS' 38<sup>th</sup> anniversary, "WISS" jingle, into "Ain't She Sweet" by Tommy Dorsey. (MKB-ON)

WTWN VT Wells River - 2/24 1701 - fighting off nulled WTAM with gospel song, ID by woman: "WTWN...the river of life". QSLed as WYKR in 1986. (MKB-ON)

1120 WPRX CT Bristol - 2/24 1800 - over nulled KMOX with upbeat Puerto Rican salsa tunes, SS ID and slogan "La Puertorriqueñisima", promo in SS for WPRX's MySpace page and web site ([www.wprx1120.net](http://www.wprx1120.net)), legal EE "WPRX 1120 Bristol" ID at

- 1802 into more salsa. (MKB-ON)
- 1330 WHBL WI Sheboygan – 2/23 1757 - Bubbled up briefly with “Here’s what’s happening around Sheboygan”. Poor, one of several mixing with WTRX. Not new but rare visitor. (HF-MI)
- 1380 WPHM MI Port Huron – 2/26 1806 – over CKPC and ESPN sports talker (which turned out to be WABH Bath, NY) with ABC news, Geico ad, “welcome to the Thursday edition of WPHM’s information hour...41 degrees in Port Huron...” into local news. (MKB-ON)
- 1400 WCCY MI Houghton – 2/17 0200 - Heard ID at top of hour and not much else. (GS-ON)
- WHGB PA Harrisburg – 2/17 0532 - ESPN sports talk, partial ID at 0532 “ESPN Radio is WHG?”. Clearer ID at 0537: “from WHGB”. (GS-ON)
- WVAE ME Biddeford – 2/17 0358 - Adult standards music, ID at top of hour: “1400 WVAE WVAE-HD Biddeford; 1490 WBAE WBAE-HD Portland” into ABC News. (GS-ON)
- WAVQ NC Jacksonville - 2/27 1302 - noted with new call sign (ex-WSTK), ABC News continues at :55. Of note, when I have heard a legal ID, it’s almost like a passing comment, “WAVQ 1400 Jacksonville,” amid general talk. Preferred “ID”/slogan is “The Wave.” (MH-NC)
- 1710 (pirate) MA Brockton – 2/24 1841 – “Radio Soleil International”, woman in FF took phone call, answering “Soleil”. Poor, mixing with music station. First time anything like an ID heard! (HF-MI)

# *International DX Digest*

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

**Foreign DX Catches. All times are UTC**

Apologies for the Faromeister’s reprise last week with the repeat of some DeLorenzo logs. Bad editor! - No more Newfie Screech for me. While Bogdan Chiochiu laments the lack of Latin American signals, at least transatlantic DX remains strong for Mike Beu as the new solar cycle limps along. For those interested in following the progress of Solar Cycle 24, check out [www.solarcycle24.com](http://www.solarcycle24.com), a neat website full of interesting resources. Now let’s check out the DX from Texas to Quebec and points in between.

## Transatlantic DX

- 162 FRANCE *France-Inter*, Allouis (47°10’N 02°12’E) FEB 21 0350 - Woman in French. Fair-poor, not threshold, but still too mushy to understand through additional slight albeit annoying buzz. Steady though. Almost surprised to get this one under such mediocre ionospheric conditions! [Chiochiu-QC]
- 171 MOROCCO *R.Mediterranee Internationale*, Nador (35°03’N 2°55’W) FEB 17 2305 - Assumed with barely noticeable audio. Very, very weak with some growl from computers in the neighborhood (not our own). Of course, during such mediocre conditions, logging Russia would be unthinkable though Russia and Morocco are the only signals that are reported in eastern North America on this channel with the probable exception of a LowFER! [Chiochiu-QC]
- 183 GERMANY *Europe 1*, Felsberg (49°17’N 6°41’E) FEB 21 0605 - Report from a psychoveterinary who was trying to understand the animal’s feelings. Good through some slight buzz. The only longwave broadcaster to reach the Montreal area with, at least, a half-decent signal! I got to understand that animal’s feelings issue because the signal was in French, not in German. In fact, until 1981, in France private radio was illegal. If you were running a pirate radio station, the police would be visiting your home in less than an hour. So, a few guys had the bright idea of running private radio or “radio périphérique” from neighboring countries such as Luxembourg, Germany or Monaco. [Chiochiu-QC]
- 189 ICELAND *Ríkisútvarpid*, Gufuskálar (64°54’N 23°55’W) FEB 21 0607 - Assumed this usual blaster with music and talk heard weakly. [Chiochiu-QC]
- 198 ENGLAND *BBC Radio 4*, Droitwich et al. FEB 21 0603 - Man talking in British-accented English. When the PK’s Shielded Magnetic Longwave Loop was set to amplify 198 kHz, while attenuating everything below and above, including nearby 201, the local beacon on 201 kHz went unreadable even though it’s in Morse, as this one violently overspilled 3 kHz

above! Fair and mushy and unreadable for me, as I'm not quite as fluent in English as in French, Romanian and, to a lesser extent Spanish, though it sounded vaguely like a weather report. Not parallel 555 ZIZ (BBC Radio 4 relays BBC World Service overnight) at this time. [Chiochiu-QC]

- 252 **IRELAND** *RTÉ Radio 1*, Clarkestown FEB 28 0050 - Over Algeria and 253 kHz beacon YTF; John Lennon song, then program host in English with *Radio One* mention and more Lennon songs. [Conti-NH]
- 531 **SPAIN** *RNE5* synchros FEB 7 2204 - Fair with news by man and woman in Spanish and ID, "Radio Nacional de España." [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 576 **CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN** *RNE5* synchros FEB 7 2152 - Fair with soccer match in Spanish, losing to unknown TA with classical music at 2154. [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 576 unID FEB 7 2154-2200 - Fair over Spain with classical music and woman in unknown language; time pips noted at 2200 but no voice heard at that time. Possibly Bulgaria? [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 621 **CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN** *RNE1* synchros, Santa Cruz de Tenerife et al. FEB 23 0412 - Spanish news talk by a man and woman; fair readable signal level. [Beu-TX]
- 693 **UNITED KINGDOM** *BBC Radio 5*, Droitwich et al. FEB 7 2226 - Fair with teletalk discussing drug abuse. [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 747 **NETHERLANDS** *Radio 5*, Flevoland (52°23'N 5°25'E) FEB 7 2133-2138 - Fair with classical music and a woman in Dutch. [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 756 **GERMANY** *Deutschlandfunk*, Braunschweig & Ravensburg FEB 7 2235 - Good with portion of Wagner's "Bridal March" followed by a man in German. [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 765 **SWITZERLAND** *RSR Option Musique*, Sottens (46°39'N 6°44'E) FEB 7 2243 - Good with George Harrison's "Here Comes the Sun." [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 972 **LIBYA** *Libyan Jamahiriya*, Sirte FEB 25 2358 - Good; noted on past usual 2345-2353 sign-off time (again) with an Arabic speaker through the hour. [Conti-NH]
- 999 **SPAIN** *COPE* Madrid (40°28'N 3°52'W) FEB 4 2124 - Fair with soccer match in Spanish. [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 1062 **DENMARK** *Danmarks Radio*, Kalundborg (55°40'N 11°04'E) FEB 22 0459 - Good; R&B/pop vocal, fanfare, and a man in Danish. [Conti-NH]
- 1161 **SPAIN** *Euskadi Irratia*, San Sebastián FEB 22 0500 - Fair; folk or chamber orchestra instrumental, time pips on the hour. A rare visitor here. [Conti-NH]
- 1359 **SPAIN** *RNE* Arganda del Rey (40°18'N 3°25'W) FEB 21 0655 - Spanish talk by man and woman. Sunrise at the transmitter site produced fair to good signal peaks for about 25 minutes. [Beu-TX]
- 1377 **FRANCE** *France Info*, Lille (50°31'N 2°59'E) FEB 27 2400 - Good; *France Info* ID with time check and fanfare into news. [Conti-NH]

الإذاعة الجزائرية  
RADIO ALGÉRIENNE



1422 **ALGERIA** *R.Algérienne*, Algiers (36°40'N 3°09'E) FEB 28 0002 - Fair but without any sign of co-channel Germany; woman in French parallel 252 kHz. [Conti-NH]

- 1467 **FRANCE** *TWR* Roumoules (43°47'N 6°09'E) FEB 27 2357 - Good; alternating between preaching in English and translation in French, one cycle of interval signal at 2400, then open carrier until off at 0002. [Conti-NH]
- 1521 **SAUDI ARABIA** *BSKSA* Duba (27°20'N 35°45'E) FEB 4 2056 - Fair with Arabic teletalk parallel to 9555 and 9870 kHz. [DeLorenzo-MA]

#### Pan-American DX

- 555 **ST. KITTS & NEVIS** ZIZ Basseterre (17°19'N 62°44'W) FEB 21 0608 - Fair-good; *BBC World Service* feed with British news announcer talking about the foreign reaction to the politics managed by Russian president Dmitri Mvedev. Not parallel 198 which was obviously running the domestic *BBC Radio 4* broadcast rather than the BBC World Service. I'm surprised to get this run-of-the-mill Caribbean outlet during such abysmal conditions toward all directions. [Chiochiu-QC]
- 760 **BRAZIL** ZYH588 *R.Uirapuru*, Fortaleza (3°45'S 38°31'W) FEB 14 2217-2230 - Fair over nulled WJR; man in Portuguese mentioning the address of a church in Fortaleza and religious vocal music. FEB 15 2217-2220 - Good over WJR; a religious program consisting of a man in Portuguese and dramatic instrumental music in the background. Lost to WJR at 2220. Thanks to Chuck Hutton, Henrik Klemetz, and Rocco Cotroneo for their help via *RealDX*! I had been chasing this station for 30 years! [DeLorenzo-MA]
- 780 **VENEZUELA** YVMN *R.Coro*, Coro (11°23'N 69°40'W) FEB 15 0047 - Presumed; melodic

ranchera vocal at a poor-fair level with splatter from local 800 CJAD that was playing music on Saturday night. If them, it's the first showing of this Venezuelan powerhouse in over a month! Mexican ranchera is very popular in Venezuela. This was almost certainly *R.Coro* with special Carnaval programming over their website [www.radiocoro.com](http://www.radiocoro.com). Is Colombia still on 780 kHz? I never heard HJZG *La Voz del Valle* or HJZW *R.Almirante*. In some corners of eastern North America, during the mid-90s, *R.Almirante* used to be slightly more common than *R.Coro*, right? Why are they missing nowadays? [Chiochiu-QC] *R.Coro* has been the dominant signal as far back as I remember, with occasional appearances of YVOD *Ecos del Torbes*, ZBVI British Virgin Islands, or XEWGR (ex-XEMF) Mexico. Of course my Atlantic coast reception can be quite different from that of inland Montréal.

1070 unID FEB 15 0055 - Spanish-sounding music and talk heard at a very threshold level with very slight splash from 1080 WTIC which, thankfully, is keeping their HD digital silent at night! I see HJCG *R.Santa Fé* reported by Chris Black in Massachusetts, which I heard only once before, just like the two other commonly reported South Americans: HJIJ *Emisora Atlantico*, Barranquilla and YVMA *Mundial Zulia*, Maracaibo, Zulia, from which a nice real-audio clip was posted by me several years ago on LatinMWDX. That being said, domestic WNCT is also remotely possible, though the very weak music didn't sound Mexican. [Chiochiu-QC] *Hibi Radio*, Dominican Republic, also logged recently since CBA went dark.

*Bogdan Romania Bound:* We are heading for Romania toward the end of May, after cé-gep ends and, then, I may see a completely different perspective on DXing from my own country, a place where I did some DXing when I was young, not very casual and uninspired as you can imagine DXing from a brick house or on the 4th floor of a building with concrete walls and ceiling, you would get just some 500 kW short-skip nighttime mediumwave signals from the neighboring countries, nothing to really get excited like the pan-American DX and, to a lesser extent, transatlantic DX I'm used to enjoying from here that captivated my attention since the past few years. But, there is the possibility of DXing from outdoors, i.e. from a park. I will try to get in contact with some of Romania's top DXers during the course of the several weeks.

#### Contributors

Mike Beu KD5DSQ, Austin TX; Drake R8B, terminated Delta antenna (17 x 28 ft) at 40°.

Bogdan Chiochiu, Pierrefonds QC; Sanyo MCD-S830 barefoot, Sangean CST-818 with the PK's Shielded Magnetic LW Loop.

Bruce Conti, Nashua NH; SDR IQ, WR-CMC-30, MWDX-5, 13 x 20-m SuperLoop east 1130-Ω terminated, 15 x 23-m Ewe south 1150-Ω terminated.

Marc DeLorenzo, South Dennis MA; JRC NRD-525, 35 x 40-ft east/west dual feedline SuperLoop with remote variable termination, 350-ft north/south longwire.

73 and Good DX!

## *DX Tool Box*

**Shawn Axelrod** [amandx@mts.net](mailto:amandx@mts.net)  
30 Becontree Bay  
Winnipeg MB R2N 2X9 Canada

### Shared tips and information from NRC members, both new and old

Welcome to the premier issue of The DX Tool Box.

Greetings once again from the Heart of the Continent.

This new column is actually a combination of one current column, Target DX and some older columns that had lapsed over time. For those of you who have been long time NRC members you will remember columns such as "Target DX", "DX'ers Notebook", or "For Beginners". These columns all had one common thread to them, to inform the reader and help him or her get the most out of the hobby. Now I am not going to say that the DX Tool Box will take over for all of these columns, but I hope to take elements from all of them and weave a new column aimed more at the newer members of the club. This column will be for the most part non-technical (mostly because I am not a technical person myself). I am hoping to give you a monthly column that will fill the need for information that we can all use to make the hobby more enjoyable and get your stations heard count up.

I will also be extracting pieces from the NRC listserv that would relate to this column. That way if you do not subscribe to the listserv you will still have access to some of the information from the listserv. On the topic of the internet I will be posting one site each column that I feel would be of help

to the readers of this column. I have no intention of turning the column into a column aimed solely at people who use the internet but I will give some space each month to a site that is directly related to making your DX'ing better. Once again I promise the sites will not be of a technical nature so all of you can enjoy and make use of them.

As always I am open to all sorts of input from the readers as to what you would like to see here each month. I cannot guarantee that I can fill every request sent in as I don't know it all. However if I cannot do a column on the subject I will write you back and explain why. You can contact me via email or regular mail at the addresses above. I do promise to answer each and every message or letter I receive as I do feel if you take the time to write I should take the time to reply.

In the last Target DX column you will remember that I listed the frequencies used world wide for Long Wave and Medium Wave stations. We shall have a closer look at how the stations are divided up in North America. Not all stations are created the same. The FCC (Federal Communications Commission) that licenses stations in the USA has the following station classes quoted on their web site as:

**“Class A Station.** A Class A station is an unlimited time station (that is, it can broadcast 24 hours per day) that operates on a clear channel. The operating power shall not be less than 10 kilowatts (kW) or more than 50 kW.

**Class B Station.** A Class B station is an unlimited time station. Class B stations are authorized to operate with a minimum power of 0.250 kW (250 watts) and a maximum power of 50 kW. (If a Class B station operates with less than 0.250 kW, the RMS must be equal to or greater than 141 mV/m at 1 km for the actual power.) If the station is authorized to operate in the expanded band (1610 to 1700 kHz), the maximum power is 10 kW.

**Class C Station.** A Class C station is an unlimited time station that operates on a local channel. The power shall not be less than 0.25 kW nor more than 1 kW. Class C stations that are licensed to operate with 0.100 kW may continue to operate as licensed.

**Class D Station.** A Class D station operates either daytime, limited time, or unlimited time with a nighttime power less than 0.250 kW and an equivalent RMS antenna field less than 141 mV/m at 1 km for the actual power. Class D stations shall operate with daytime powers not less than 0.250 kW nor more than 50 kW. NOTE: If a station is an existing daytime-only station, its class will be Class D.”

Excuse the technical jargon there but that is the FCC's way of stating their classes of stations. The stations in Canada and Mexico are similar but we up here in the Great White North don't follow all the rules especially on Class C frequencies.

Stations of various types can operate only on certain frequencies as laid out by the FCC. As an example Class C stations can only be found on: 1230 1240 1340 1400 1450 1490 and are often referred to as the Local or Graveyard frequencies.

The Class A can be found on: 540 640 650 660 670 680 690 700 710 720 730 740 750 760 770 780 800 810 820 830 840 850 860 870 880 890 900 940 990 1000 1010 1020 1030 1040 1050 1060 1070 1080 1090 1100 1110 1120 1130 1140 1160 1170 1180 1190 1200 1210 1220 1500 1510 1520 1530 1540 1550 1560 1570 1580 and are referred to as the Clear frequencies All other frequencies including all of the expanded band frequencies are classified as Regional frequencies. Although classified as a certain type of frequency often there may be more than one type of station classification on a given frequency. If you want a detailed chart that will list all the frequencies and station types you can go to:

<http://www.fcc.gov/mb/audio/amclasses.html>

One final class or at least group is the TIS (Tourist Information Station) or HAR (Highway Advisory Radio) stations that operate on 530 kHz. They are found on other frequencies especially 1610 kHz to 1700 kHz but on 530 kHz in the USA the only stations allowed are TIS/HAR stations. In Canada there is no such restriction on 1610 kHz. These are all low powered stations 10 watts or less but they can get out when conditions are good.

As you will be able to see the frequencies with stations allowed lower power will be more crowded than the frequencies with higher powered stations on them. The Class C or Graveyard frequencies are very crowded with almost 200 stations on each frequency. On the other hand 720 kHz has only 12 stations on frequency.

This month's DX Tool Box web site is:

**Broadcast Dialogue The Voice of Broadcasting in Canada**

[http://www.broadcastdialogue.com/directory\\_provlevel.asp?searchLevel=province&searchCategory=Radio%20Stations](http://www.broadcastdialogue.com/directory_provlevel.asp?searchLevel=province&searchCategory=Radio%20Stations)

You will find a province and territory list of the major AM and FM stations in Canada. You can find all types of info on the site including formats and addresses and telephone numbers for those of you who collect verifications. Many stations also have a link to the station's web site.

# College Sports Networks

**John Cereghin** mwdx@pilgrimway.org  
38 S. Carters Rd  
Smyrna, DE 19977-1203

## Network listings for college sports stations

With the college basketball season winding down, it is time to turn our attention to spring sports, namely college baseball. There is some college baseball on the radio, but not much. We'll take these listings by school instead of by conference. Below is the first in what will probably several lists of baseball networks, which I'll add to as I do more research. Flagships in bold.

### Alabama

950 WNZZ-AL

### Alabama-Birmingham

100.5 WWMM-AL

### Arkansas

Chuck Barrett, Rick Schaeffer

1030 **KFAY-AR** 1480 KTHS-AR  
1290 KOUA-AR 1580 KHGG-AR  
1360 KFFA-AR  
1400 KWYN-AR 92.7 KASR-AR

### Auburn

630 WJDB-AL 1400 WXAL-AL  
1360 WELR-AL

### Central Florida

740 WQTM-FL

### Florida

Mick Hubert, Steve Bubik

850 WRUF-FL

### Florida State

1270 WNLS-FL

### Louisiana State University

98.1 WDGL-LA

### Missouri

1590 KTGR-MO

### Oregon

Jerry Allen, Brian Prawitz

590 KUGN-OR 910 KURY-OR  
660 KWRO-OR 1360 KUIK-OR

### South Carolina

1240 WKDK-SC 1400 WSPG-SC  
1250 WTMA-SC 1410 WPCC-SC  
1350 WLMA-SC

### South Florida

1010 WQYK-FL

### Tulane

88.3 WRBH-LA

### Arizona State

1060 KDUS-AZ

### Baylor

1660 KRZI-TX

97.9 KUOA-AR  
103.1 KFFA-AR  
103.1 KHGG-AR

103.7 **KABZ-AR**  
105.3 KOUA-AR  
107.5 KOMT-AR

97.7 **WKKR-AL**

88.5 WJBE-FM

### East Carolina

1070 WNCT-NC

### Georgia Tech

91.1 WREK-GA

94.9 WTNT-FL

100.7 WFLA-FL

### Louisiana State University-Eunice

92.5 KVPI-LA

95.5 KTXG-OR  
(Sunday games)

101.1 KSRK-OR

93.5 WDOG-SC  
102.7 WPUB-SC

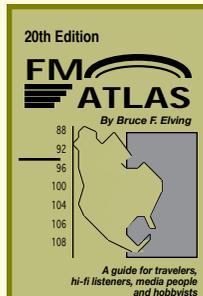
103.1 WRIX-SC  
107.5 WNKT-SC

### Texas Tech

1340 KKAM-TX

### Vanderbilt

560 WNSR-TN



## Bruce Elving's FM Atlas ... 20th Edition

The world-famous guide which has served FM DX'ers for over 20 years is available from NRC Publications at the special price of \$20.00 for NRC USA/Canada members, \$24.00 USA/Canada non-members, \$25.00 for all others. Canadian orders: PayPal or postal M. O. only. Order from NRC Publications - P.O. Box 473251, Aurora CO - 80047-3251. (CO residents, please add 3.5% sales tax.)

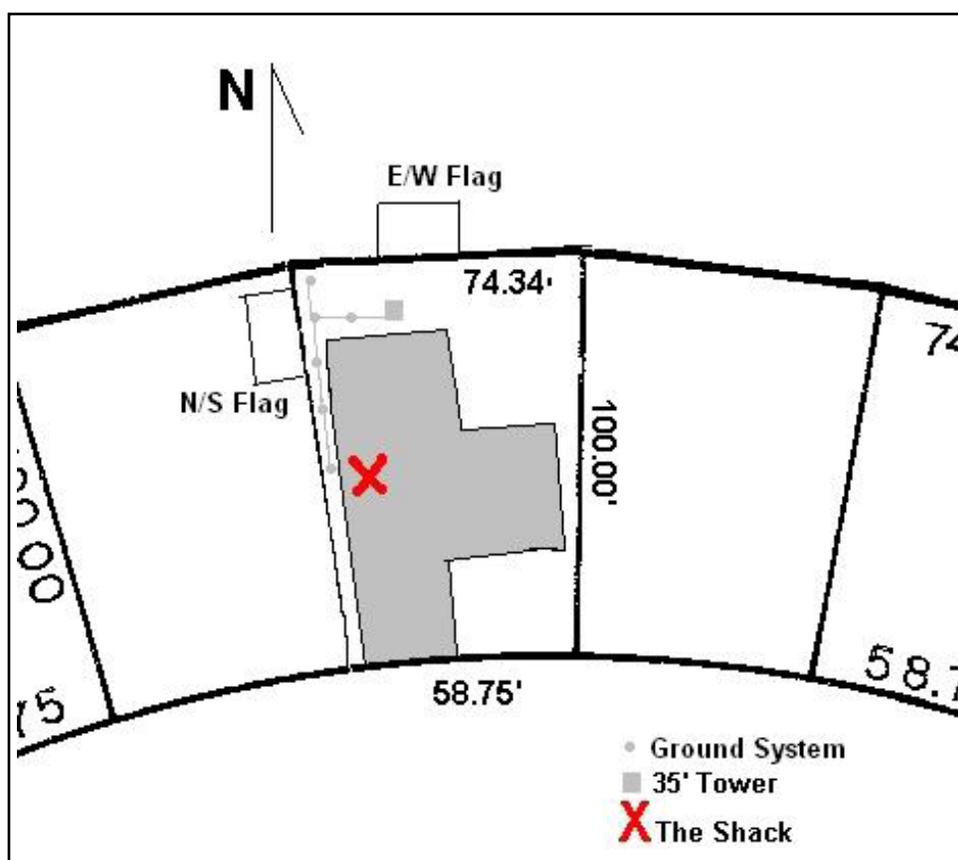
# BCB DX'ing Antennas for the Suburban DX'er

By Wayne Heinen NØPOH

(This article first appeared in *Monitoring Times* Sept 2008)



**Three-foot NRC Box loop**



Today's suburban environment can complicate DX'ing in many ways. Many of us live on small lots that are, in some areas of the country, actually smaller than lots in older urban areas. The advent of anti-recreational antenna covenants in many areas has limited DX'ers to "stealth" outdoor antennas and a variety of indoor antennas. Unfortunately, SWL's, BCB DX'ers, and ham radio operators don't have the clout of the satellite TV industry to override these various rules like they did!

In the last few years I have had my interest in more serious DX'ing rekindled. I have for many years used a variation on the NRC FET Altizimuth loop<sup>1</sup>; the frame is slightly smaller, and I did not use an amplifier with mine. Loop antennas have been the mainstay of BCB DX'ers for years, and they still are an important part of a BCB DX'ers antenna arsenal.

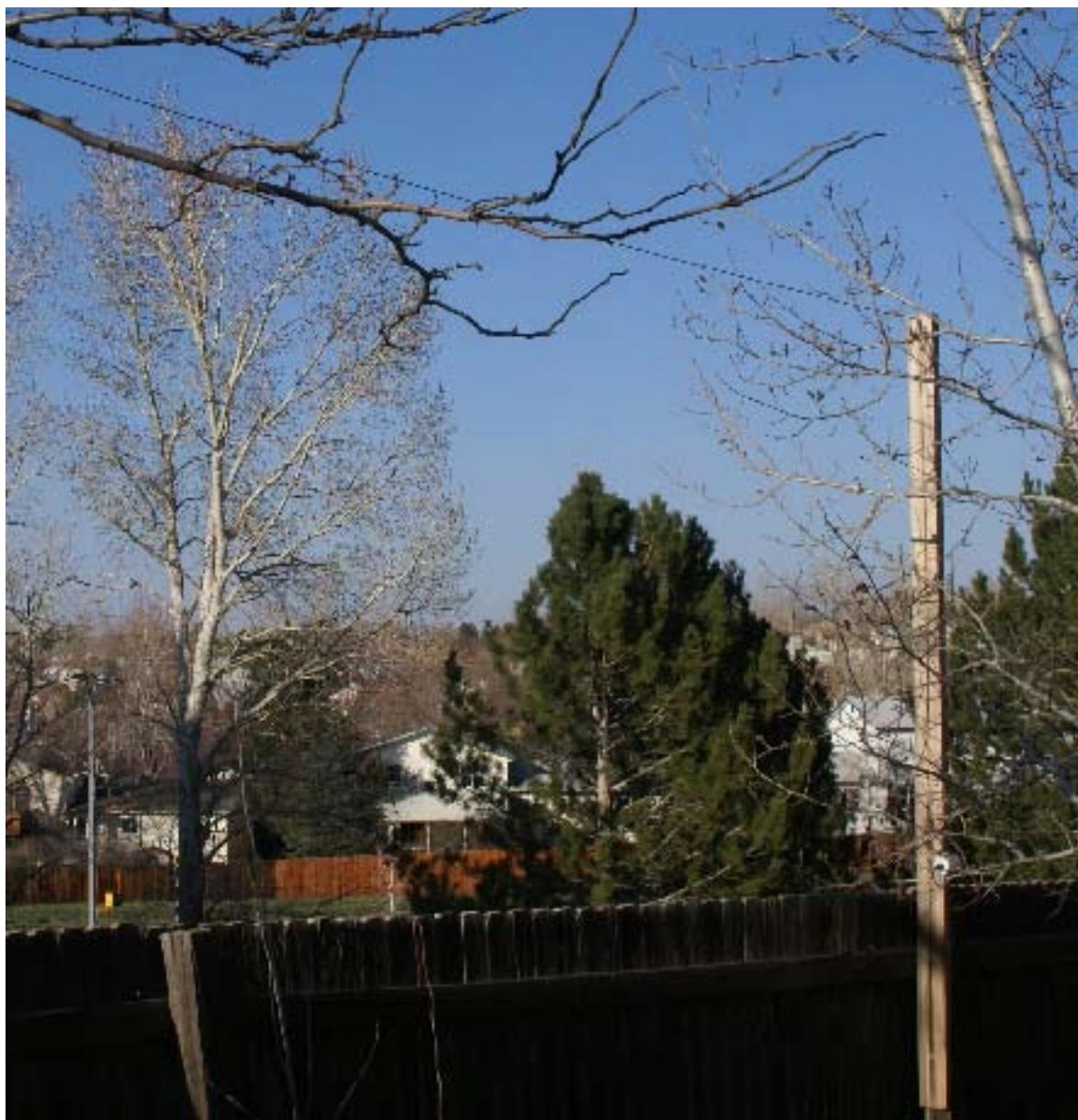
One thing that I wanted to accomplish was to get some form of outdoor antenna away from my house and reasonably far away from my neighbors so that I could avoid some of the noise that is generated by today's modern electronics. The loop worked well, but being inside it was very susceptible to the electronic noise in the house. What I was looking for was a way of improving my monitoring station that resides on a postage stamp lot in a 25-year-old suburban subdivision.

I am fortunate in that I live in an area where the original covenants restricting antennas to one mounted on the house and no towers have expired. Wire antennas can be erected, but the question became what to erect, where to erect it, and how.

Improvisation was the key to adding antennas to my DX location. If you notice the diagrams that accompany many of the antennas shown in manuals, antenna articles and other publications, you'll see that everyone has one or more convenient trees that are high and strong. Not so at my listening post! My subdivision is on the plains east of Denver, Colorado; Aurora has a rather descriptive nickname, "Saudi Aurora", which was derived from the lack of trees. What trees I have are not very tall and are subject to lots of movement and sway in the winds here on the plains.

I spent quite a bit of time searching the Internet and reading various articles and books looking for a small space antenna that I could fit on my lot<sup>2</sup>. I decided that a flag<sup>3</sup> would fit very nicely on the back fence. These antennas are rectangular and have two vertical legs approximately 10 feet high and the center horizontal arms are approximately 20 feet in length. The ideal ratio of legs to arms is 2.07, 10' X 20' works just fine. The back fence was not quite a perfect East/West configuration. I could also run a flag antenna on the fence on the west side of the house; it would give me close to North/South configuration. I used some 1" X 2" furring strips to extend the height of the 4" X 4" fence posts. This worked fine on the North South flag, but I had to beef up the East/West run with cedar 2" X 4" extenders because the wind from the north was bending my original furring strips much more than I liked. The flag also al-

lowed me have a lower to the ground antenna secured to the cedar fence, thus keeping it out of the way of Buddy, the family dog. The east leg of the East/West flag shows the upright support, and you can make out the wire across the top, in summer the tree leaves hide most of the antenna from view. Photo (*E-W\_Flag.JPG*) The wire for the antenna is not critical, I happened to have a roll of 12-gauge AWG in the house and that's what I used. The normal flag configuration calls for a feed line half way up one of the vertical legs; this in effect creates a cardioid pattern towards the leg that contains the termination resistance between the two halves of the flag.



**East-West Flag Antenna**

My initial termination was a potentiometer mounted in a waterproof enclosure. I adjusted it at the antenna while listening to the frequency of interest using a baby monitor which broadcast my Drake R8B's audio that I listened to on a scanner. It was a little cumbersome, but it worked. I used these antennas for a season and was impressed by the fact that I could set my taping setup on a frequency and using the East/West flag one evening log a variety of stations from those directions, mostly favoring the East, as the feedline was on the west leg. The next night I could change to the North/ South antenna and get a different variety of stations favoring the North more than the South since my feedline was on the South end.

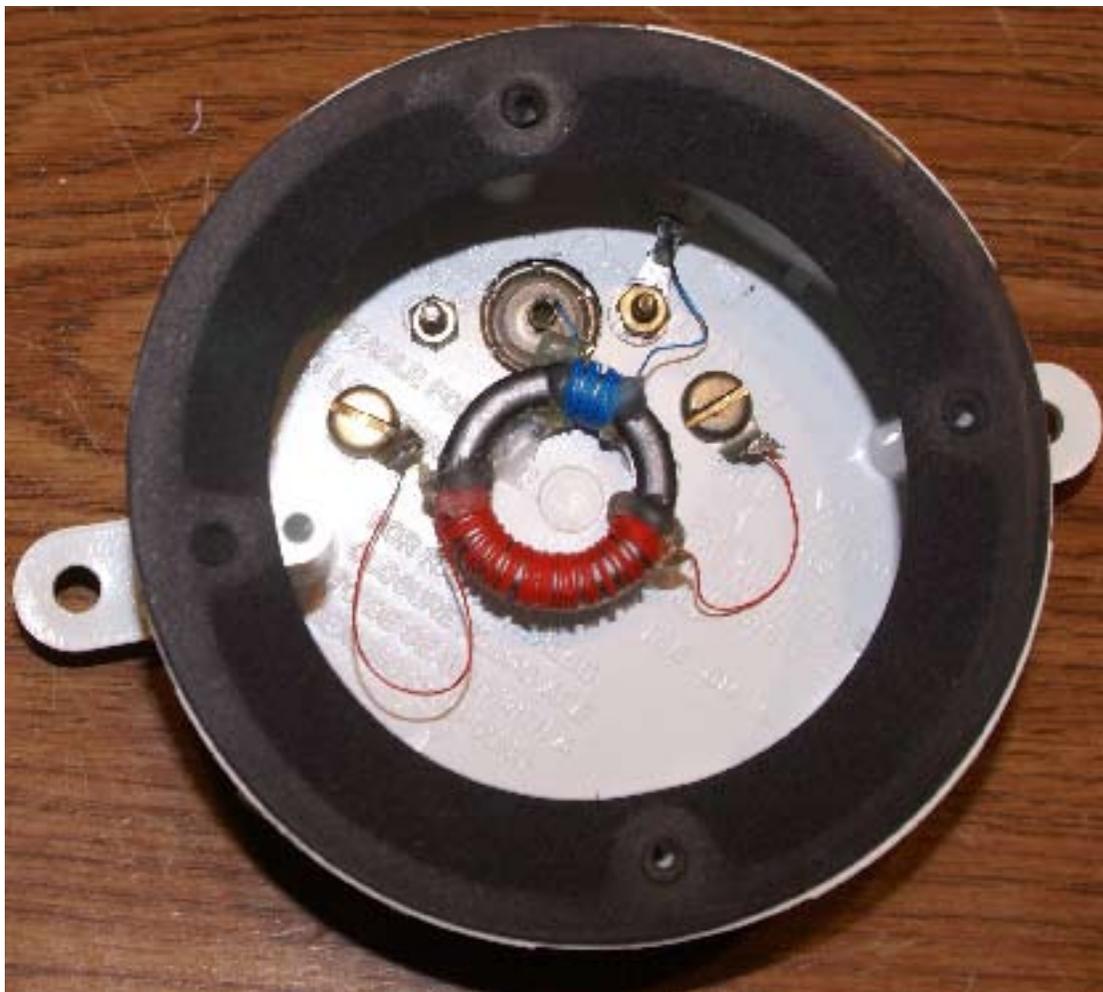
By virtue of their size, the signal delivered by the flag antenna is not very great. I use a variety of different homebrew and commercially produced broadband amplifiers to increase the signal from the flag to the receiver. There are a variety of plans available in various magazines and publications of DX Clubs<sup>2</sup> for those who might like to try a building project. A quick search of the internet will lead you to more plans and many commercial suppliers<sup>4</sup>. Depending on the number of stations in proximity to your DX location, the amount of gain (amplification) of the different amplifiers may be desirable to prevent overloading from strong local stations. It is always a good idea to use only the amount of gain required to present a readable signal to your receiver.

The original feedlines for these were whatever coax I happened to have around the shack. I used a lot of smaller diameter coax; the losses that are experienced in receive only antennas when using smaller gauge coax like RG-58/U are negligible at BCB and HF frequencies. If you keep your eyes open you may be able to get some used coax that is still in good shape at many hamfests (amateur radio flea markets). I acquired some nice 100' runs of RG-8/U and RG-58/U that were actually free for the taking at a few local ham fests. If the exterior insulation is in good shape and the resistance between the center conductor and the outside shield is infinity, while you have continuity from one end to the other, it should do fine for feed line leading to your shack.

Other articles that I had seen talked about maximum signal transfer and impedance matching, they recommended using a balun to match the balanced (Balanced) flag antenna to the unbalanced (Unbalanced) coax feed line, hence the name balun. I started out using some Mini-Circuits<sup>4</sup> transformers, mounting them in my own weatherproof enclosures for my baluns. The Mini Circuits units use very fine wire for their transformers and are incased in plastic looking a little like integrated circuits (IC's). I am fairly sure that one of the Mini-Circuits transformers was fried by a static charge that probably accumulated



**Pill bottle with enclosed balun**



**Inside a water-proof enclosure**



**Exterior of the water-proof electrical box**

on the antennas. Colorado is very arid, and close lightning strikes are not all that rare on top of my ridge.

After reading an article on impedance matching and baluns by John Bryant, Bill Bowers, and Nick Hall-Patch<sup>5</sup>, I decided to wind some of my own balun transformers. I ordered my toroids direct from Amidon<sup>4</sup> and got the #30 wire at my local Radio Shack. I found that winding the transformers was not all that difficult and made both overlapping coils and some opposed

winding coils. The tests and conclusions in their article led me to use the opposed winding coils. I suggest using the wound toroid baluns in areas of high RF and thunderstorms. My enclosures were "homebrew": in a pill bottle. The sun has bleached the pill bottle clear and it will soon be replaced with a water tight electrical box. These boxes are about \$5 at most hardware stores and are easily adapted to house the balun. I secured the balun on the inside of the box with small dabs of hot melt glue. These boxes seal very well and showed no sign of moisture inside during this spring's inspection. The BNC connector and the 10-32 brass hardware are sealed both inside and out with hot melt glue also.

A good ground is something that I find important. I also have a large ham radio tower with a lot of yagis; the ground system for the tower is designed to take static away from the shack and tower and dissipate it in the ground if I should be unfortunate as to have lightning hit. My ground system is six eight foot long rods that are placed between and away from the tower and the shack, the entry panel is a piece of 1/4" thick brass plate mounted in the outside wall of the shack with UHF (SO-239) feed-throughs for the coax.

Over the years I have built a variety of project boxes based on the designs of Mark Connelly WA1ION, a long time BCB DX'er and contributor to both the National Radio Club and the International Radio Club of America<sup>2</sup>. Mark's many innovations in antennas,



### Wayne Heinen's DX corner

tuners, phasers and associated accessories have been at the forefront of the technical aspects of the BCB DX'ing hobby.

One of Mark's articles featured a box that he called the Terminator Gizmo<sup>6</sup>. The principle behind this box and the associated antennas was to have a feedline leading to each leg of the flag antennas and switch between the two feedlines with a toggle switch. The feedline that was not feeding the receiver was then terminated with a 500Ω potentiometer that in affect allowed you to vary the resistance for the best termination to create a cardioid pattern. By switch from one side to the other, you change the orientation of the pattern 180°. I modified both of my flags to match the design of this Gizmo and use these flags to feed a phasing box.

I have used Mark's phaser designs both active (amplified) and passive with great success. I am currently using a Mini DXP-5A phaser<sup>7</sup>, a relatively easy construction project that allows me to phase two antennas together to eliminate an unwanted signal to hear whatever may be lurking underneath. In addition to building phasing units there are commercially produced units that are either designed for BCB or are adaptable to BCB DX. Radio Plus+, MFJ and DX Engineering offer a variety in a wide range of prices. The principle is rather simple: once one equalizes the signal coming from each of the antennas, the signals are combined and the phase changed with a simple Resistance/ Capacitance or Inductance/ Capacitance circuit. The results vary by location, re-radiation from nearby objects, and many other factors.

The bottom line is I have an antenna farm on a lot that is approximately 70' X 100'! The flags also proved reasonable reception on the International SW bands. Even with all the coax switching, project boxes and the Drake R8B; the small built-in corner desk in the shack holds the entire listening setup Photo (*Myshack.jpg*). If you would like to hear some of the results of my BCB DXploites, you can listen to over 900 MP3 recordings of BCB DX'ing from the shack here in Aurora; just visit my web site [www.wayneheinen.com](http://www.wayneheinen.com).

#### Footnotes:

1. "The NRC FET Altizimuth Antenna" ARM1 - The National Radio Club <http://www.nrcdxas.org/>
2. Suggested Reading Resources: Monitoring Times <http://www.monitoringtimes.com/> , The National Radio Club <http://www.nrcdxas.org/> , International Radio Club of America <http://www.ircaonline.org/>
3. "Flag Antenna Construction and Test Results" ARM3
4. Commercial Sources: Mini Circuits: <http://www.minicircuits.com/> , Amidon <https://www.amidoncorp.com/> , Radio Plus+ <http://www.dxttools.com/> , DX Engineering <http://www.dxengineering.com/> , MFJ Enterprises <http://www.mfjenterprises.com/> , Grove Enterprises <http://www.grove-ent.com/>
5. "A Second Look at Fabricating Impedance Transformers for Receiving Antennas" ARM3
6. "New Termination Control Method for Flag, Pennant, and Similar Antennas" ARM3 - 7: "Passive Broadband Phasing" ARM3

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# Musings of the Members

**Dave Schmidt** NRCMusings@aol.com  
P. O. Box 126  
New Freedom, PA 17349-0126

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.

(Note: Technically this is not a "Musing", as it's not from a current member, but I had no other spot for it in this issue, so under the "Musings" banner it goes.

Remember, all non-electronic Musings go directly to the publisher, not to editor Dave Schmidt, for re-processing - scanning, retyping, whatever. All Musings which can be sent electronically should go to Dave at the e-mail address above -pls.)

## Wayne Heinen

Recently, I received an email from our website from Scott Seagraves, known as "Scooter" when he was a member in the 1950's. I wanted to share this with the club, and anyone that may remember him and want to drop him a line, his email listed below. 73

## Scott Seagraves <gb3kudzu@diamondcity.net>

"I'll appreciate any hooking up you can help me achieve -- in my retirement dotage, mainly through radio-info.com, I've become close e-friends with people I worked with (and, against) 40 years ago, and never thought I'd hear from again. But re-connecting w/other guys who at the time were 13 or 14 YO, and seeing if all those sleep hours lost to DX'ing have warped them as badly as it did The Moi Dude -- to say the least, it would be interesting. Most of the active NRC'ers were "older" guys--you know, those dinosaurs who were 35 or 40!--so would mostly be off the radar by now. But here are some from the youngsters I recall: Alex McKenzie, Pete Hansen (maybe Hanson), Ken Maylath, Donald Chadeayne, and Peter Putnam Bretz; all from Croton-on-Hudson, NY ... Kent Corson, Waterloo, IA ... Maurice W Nittler, (town forgotten) NE ... Bus Boatman and John H. Bryant, Stillwater OK ... Bob Reck, Manhasset NY ... and Ron Schiller, Avenel, NJ."

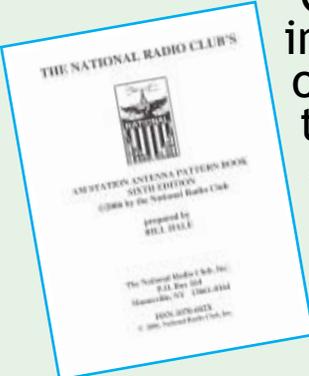


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