# News

Serving DX'ers since 1933

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Omaha 2011: We're coming up on the joint NRC/WTFDA Convention in Omaha from October 13 to 16. Members on e-dxn.com will still receive this in time to meet the registration deadline of October 1. Details on page 15.

**NRC Member Survey**: As announced by the Board earlier this year, the Club is conducting a member survey this fall. A survey questionnaire is included in this issue – it's centered for easy removal and completion. Please return by October 28 to Debra S. Vobbe, 706 Mackenzie Drive, Lima OH 45805. Thanks to Fred Vobbe and his team for preparing the survey, and to you for participating – it will help the Club better meet the needs of the members in our publications and conventions.

Contest 2011: The first "sprint" of the 2011 NRC Contest will be three consecutive days of your choice from October 6 to October 18. Details on page 34 of the September 19 issue.

New Members: Let's have a rousing NRC welcome for: R.D. Arvin, Cincinnati OH (rejoin); Chris Black, South Yarmouth MA (rejoin); Rick Dau, Omaha NE (rejoin); Robert Gulley, Bellevue KY; Bryne Hagstrom, Eugene OR; Robert Hill, Littleton MA; Wayne Mishler, Holiday Island AR; Raymond Rothstein, Port Jervis NY; David Smith, Dartford, Kent, United Kingdom; Wayne Van Brocklin, Chaska MN; Steven Wood, Sunnyvale CA; and Neil G. Zank, Lincoln NE. A couple of these names already appear inside this week's issue ... your DX News editors would love to hear from all of our new (and not so new) members!

NHL 2011-2012: With the imminent start of the NHL season, Barry Finkel is seeking NHL radio network lists or URLs. Contact him at <bsfinkel@att.net>.

**DXChange**: Shawn Axelrod has some back issues of DX News to send to someone who can use them – otherwise they will go to recycling! He has volumes 67 (1999-2000) through 77 (2009-2010) – and he'll send any volume for the cost of postage. He'd rather not break up any volumes, however. Contact him at 30 Becontree Bay, Winnipeg MB R2N 2X9 (Canada) or at <amandx@mymts.net>.

**From the Publisher**: With this issue of *DX News*, we resume weekly publication. I need to

receive materials for publication by 2359 ELT on Friday (or as early as possible on Saturday morning, if I know it's coming). Most weeks the PDF version of DX News is available on edxn.com by Saturday afternoon, or Sunday at the latest. If you're already a DX News print subscriber, e-dxn.com access is just \$5 more ... as an old NRC slogan used to have it, get your DX News while it is still news!

For the first time since I assumed publication duties on DX News a year ago, we have a substantial backlog of material for publication. This allows us to even out the number of pages in each issue, keeping costs down and each issue full of interesting material. This is a good problem to have - keep those articles, column contributions, and radio news items coming!

DX Time Machine returns next week.

#### NRC AM LOG 32d EDITION

I wanted to share this year's AM Radio Log dedication and the response I received with the membership.

The Dedication: Over the years we have dedicated each edition of the Log to a club member, Log contributor or fellow traveller who has served our radio hobby. This year the thirtysecond edition of the AM Radio Log is dedicated to the memory of my counterpart in the world of FM monitoring. Bruce F. Elving, editor and publisher of the FM Atlas, passed away this past July. Bruce was dedicated to the FM DX'ing hobby and championed it through the FM Atlas, his writings and his enthusiastic participation. He will be missed by all. (Wayne Heinen August 23, 2011)

On September 16, I received handwritten "thank you" card from Carol Elving:

"Dear Wayne,

"I got your package yesterday and I want to thank you so much for the dedication to Bruce. It would have meant so much to him to know how many people out there looked up to him and admired his work. He was one of a kind. Thanks again for your thoughtfulness.

Sincerely, Carol."

-- Wayne Heinen, NRC AM Log Editor

## 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, listeners

#### **CALL LETTER CHANGES**

|             | Old Call    | <u>l</u> |               | <u>New Call</u> |
|-------------|-------------|----------|---------------|-----------------|
| <b>1280</b> | <b>KVWG</b> | TX       | Pearsall      | KMFR            |
| 1340        | WYJK        | PA       | Connellsville | WBGI            |
| <b>1420</b> | WLET        | GA       | Toccoa        | WEJY            |
| 1590        | WAMS        | MD       | Ocean City    | WQMR            |



#### CONSTRUCTION PERMITS ON THE AIR

| 910 KCJB | ND Minot – Is now on with U4 5000/5000, increasing the night power from 1 kW. |
|----------|---|
|          | They added a tower and now use two during the day and three at night. The     |
|          | new night pattern is virtually a large circle based at Minot directed to the  |
|          | northeast with small lobes to the southeast and southwest.                    |

1340 KTFI ID Wendell – New station is on with U1 1000/1000 at 42-43-25/114-40-12.

#### **ACTIONS**

| 770 KJCB | LA | Lafayette – Licensed for U2 1000/500, KJCB is operating U1 1000/125 from a   |
|----------|----|--|
|          |    | 320' longwire antenna 20' above the ground at 30-16-07/91-55-52 as they lost |
|          |    | the lease on their transmitter site.   |

1120 CP TX Manor – Initial CP was for U4 430/153. They then applied for U4 5600/153, which has been granted.

**1440 WLXN NC Lexington** – Coordinate corrections to their day and night transmitter sites as follows: (day) 35-50-02/80-14-01; (night) 35-49-56/80-17-14.

1460 WPON MI Walled Lake – Licensed for U4 1000/760, WPON has a Construction Permit (CP) for U4 670/175 from a new transmitter site. They are now operating with U1 250/190 using a 169' longwire antenna until their new tower facility is complete.

#### **CONSTRUCTION PERMIT AMENDMENTS**

1060 KFOY NV Sparks – This new station, not yet on the air, has a CP for U4 15000/370. This amendment requests U7 10000/250 CH 10000.

#### **APPLICATIONS**

**1050** WBRG VA Lynchburg – Applies for 3800/92.

**1400 CKSQ AB Stettler** – Applies to move to 93.3 MHz.

**1560 WYZD NC Dobson** – Applies for D1 4200/0 CH 515. [antenna designation corrected from last issue]

#### **OTHER NEWS**

**1520 WINW OH Canton** – License and call letters reinstated.

**ON Windsor** – Their 90-day simulcast period with replacement station CJNR-FM 95.9 ends 30 September.

#### **DISMISSALS AND DELETIONS**

910 WNHV NH White River Junction – License cancelled; call deleted

**1230 KELY NV Ely** – Application for U1 1000/1000

#### **AM ON FM**

960 WTCH WI Shawano – W243CM (96.5) Shawano

**1270 WCMR IN Elkhart** – W287BL (105.3) Elkhart

1300 WOOD MI Grand Rapids – WOOD-FM (106.7) Muskegon

1360 WCHL NC Chapel Hill – W253AZ (98.5) Creedmoor

**1460 WBRN MI Big Rapids** – W236BR (95.1) Reed City MI; W299BE (107.7) Big Rapids

**1490 WBSS** NJ Jersey Shore – WIP-FM (94.1) Philadelphia [actually, in this case, it's "FM on AM" as WBSS is simulcasting WIP-FM]

#### **HEAR AND THAR**

- \* Returning to the airwaves: WHAT-1340 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania is back with a Spanish format; WCLY-1550 Raleigh, North Carolina returns to the air with Spanish-language sports from ESPN Deportes.
- Reported as Silent: WRFV-910 Wellborn, Florida; KTGO-1090 Tioga, Minnesota as they lost their tower site [call corrected from last issue]; CJWI-1610 Montreal is off temporarily while they relocate their transmitter as part of their move to 1410 kHz.
- \* Fines: An amateur radio operator has been fined \$17,000 for operating without a license in the Maritime Radio Service and 'maliciously interfering with' the United States Coast Guard on the International Distress, Safety, and Calling Channel (156.800 MHz) in Annapolis, Maryland.
- News Item: The FCC has decided it will allow U.S. AM stations to use technologies that reduce transmitter power consumption — techniques that have been available to broadcasters elsewhere for years. In the United States, Nautel and Harris offer such technology for AM use, and Nautel's Tim Hardy has been a vocal proponent in recent years. Radio World has reported on interest in the issue. Alaska Public Broadcasting Inc. Director of Engineering Chuck Lakaytis has been particularly active in exploring this and spoke about his experience at the spring NAB Show, so AM owners probably owe him a particular "thank you" right now (or maybe a penny for each dollar saved on their power bills!). Stations will still need a waiver of rules to proceed, but the bureau has set up procedures to seek the waiver, and it indicated it would approve requests that use the Nautel and Harris options. "Such technologies, known generally as Modulation-Dependent Carrier Level (MDCL) control technologies or algorithms, have long been used by international broadcasters operating high-powered AM transmitters," the FCC staff wrote. "Easier implementation of MDCL algorithms and higher energy costs have recently made these techniques more attractive to domestic broadcasters." The amount of energy savings depends on various factors, but the FCC said that in typical cases, power consumption of an AM transmitter can be reduced by 20 to 40 percent. Tim Hardy at Nautel was quoted by RW's Leslie Stimson earlier this year saying, "It would be fairly easy to save \$20,000 a year if you have a 50 kW AM transmitter running 24/7, based on modest electricity rates of 10 cents per kilowatt hour." The Media Bureau in its announcement offered a short history, noting that in the 1980s, European entities like the BBC, AEG Telefunken and ABB Group developed algorithms to reduce power consumption by radio transmitters. "These algorithms, known variously as Dynamic Amplitude Modulation, Amplitude Modulation Companding, Adaptive Carrier Control or Dynamic Carrier Control, decrease carrier power by amounts up to 6 dB, with the power reductions applied at different modulation levels depending on the algorithm." In the U.S., Harris offers Amplitude Modulation Companding (AMC) and Adaptive Carrier Control (ACC) features for its AM transmitters, and can add the feature to some older transmitters. Nautel includes an option, Dynamic Carrier Control (DCC), on NX series transmitters, and can install it on other models. The FCC said it will consider waiver requests for implementation using other transmitters, if any come forward. The commission staff noted that the reduction in AM signal power at certain modulation levels "inevitably exacts some penalty upon audio quality. Depending on the content of the audio program, MDCL algorithms may introduce some audio distortion or may decrease the signal-to-noise ratio in the receiver." They may also erode coverage slightly at the fringes of your protected service area. "Both the long experience of transmitter manufacturers and broadcasters abroad, and the initial reports from experimental operations in Alaska, however, indicate that such adverse effects are generally imperceptible." The FCC also noted that field strength readings could be affected, so it encouraged stations to disable the technology before doing field strength measurements. "We expect licensees to cooperate with field strength measurement programs by other stations." It also said it would allow AM stations broadcasting IBOC to implement the technology if the hybrid signal continues to comply with spectral emissions mask requirements and the relative level of the analog signal to the digital signal remains constant. Requests should spell out which technology you plan to use and how it will be implemented. If approved, the division will issue a modified station license indicating that a waiver has been granted to permit use of a specific MDCL technology, resulting in the variation of transmitter power to levels below 90 percent of the station's nominal licensed power. But note, the FCC will still require that the transmitter achieve full licensed power at some audio input level, or when the MDCL is disabled temporarily. "This requirement will permit stations to use energy-saving MDCL technologies, which preserve licensed coverage areas, while distinguishing between such operations and simple reductions

- in transmitter power, which do not." It said it will also continue to authorize operations for stations that want to evaluate MDCL technology. Those requests require only an informal application, typically a letter.
- News Item: Heathkit Will Make Kits Again Sending a pleasant shudder up the backbone of many a hobbyist and ham, Heathkit says it is back in the kit business. "The first kit will be a Garage Parking Assistant," the company states on its website. "The Garage Parking assistant kit lets you build your own system that uses ultrasonic sound waves to locate your car as it enters the garage. The system signals to the driver using LED lights mounted on the wall when the car is detected and in the perfect spot for parking." The kit consists of two assemblies, an LED display in kit form and a preassembled ultrasonic range module. "The kit will include everything you need to complete the project except a soldering iron and hand tools." The second planned item is a Wireless Swimming Pool Monitor kit, "followed by many more," specifically including amateur radio kits. Heathkit asked that users submit suggestions for future sets. The Heathkit mail-order catalog was distributed by Edward B. Heath in 1926. According to a 2009 article in Electronic Design, later owners of the company included Zenith Corp. and Schlumberger. The kit business was phased out in the early 1990s. Successor Heathkit Educational Systems was launched in the 1970s to develop training materials for schools and corporations. HES is based in Benton Harbor, Mich. Visit the Heathkit Museum at http://www.heathkit-museum.com/ [Heat up your soldering iron!!]
- \* Thanks to: Shawn Axelrod, Bill Dvorak, Tony Fitzherbert, Wayne Heinen, Tim Noonan, Dave Schmidt, Upper Midwest Broadcasting and Radio-World Online.

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

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

Welcome to the start of the weekly columns for this DX season. Volume 79, Issue #1. Think about that for a moment. Mediumwave DXers were avidly reading this publication before you were a glowing tube in your parents' eyes. Be sufficiently impressed and humbled.

Welcome (back) to former (and current) NRC member Rick Dau from South Omaha, Nebraska.

#### Reporters

JDS-MN Jeff Steffes, Watertown, MN Drake R8, Kenwood R-2000, Quantum QX Loop

JEL-MO J.E. Lewis, Kansas City, MO Honda Odyssey Car Radio

**JW-CO John Wilkins, Wheat Ridge, CO** Drake R-8, 4-foot box loop. (DXing left-handed due to a broken right wrist.)

MR-UT Mike Riordan, Salt Lake City, UT Panasonic RFB-300

RD-NE Rick Dau, South Omaha, NE Kenwood R-5000 + Quantum QX Pro loop.

#### **DX Loggings (All Times ELT)**

- **560 WIND IL Chicago** 9/16 2039 Out of interview with Pat Boone "AM Five-Sixty WIND," followed by commercials, traffic and weather report with current temperature given as 57 degrees. (**JDS-MN**)
  - WEBC MN Duluth 9/16 2049 Out of high school football, Kingsford vs. Duluth Denfeld "You're listening to ESPN High School Football on WEBC." (JDS-MN)
- **590 KXSP NE Omaha** 9/16 2113 Commercials for *The Herd* on ESPN Radio, and *Jim Rome Is Burning*, followed by "AM Five-Ninety Omaha's ESPN Radio." (**JDS-MN**)
- **600 WMT IA Cedar Rapids** 9/16 2118 Out of high school football, Iowa West vs. Prairie. "Six-Hundred WMT," followed by commercials for Cedar Rapids businesses. (**JDS-MN**)
- **610** KCSP MO Kansas City 9/16 2129 Kansas City Royals baseball play by play, pause for station identification: "Kansas City Sports Radio KCSP." (JDS-MN)
  - **KONA** WA Kennewick-Richland-Pasco 9/20 0827 "The most fun you can have in the morning...with Mike and Dennis on 610 KONA," followed by an herbicide ad; signal in and out over the next 10 minutes with typical wake-up fare: news,

- ads, "Tri-Cities weather," etc. Fair peaks, mixing with KNML. (JW-CO) Nothing like an herbicide ad to start your day. (JDT-WA)
- **640 CFMJ ON Richmond Hill** 9/16 2203 Discover Ontario commercial including: "For more information go to Six-Forty Toronto dot com" followed by: "This is *Coast to Coast* on AM Six Forty." (**JDS-MN**)
- **700 WLW** OH Cincinnati 9/16 2225 Out of sports talk "Mark Amazon Seven-Hundred WLW," followed by local commercials including the Red Wing Shoe Store in Westchester, Then back to *The Mark Amazon Show*. (**JDS-MN**)
- 710 KNUS CO Denver 9/16 2231 Spot for "The Mark Gallagher Show on KNUS" into commercials, then, ""News talk Seven-Ten KNUS." (JDS-MN)
- **730 KQPN AR West Memphis** 9/9 0659 Male voice with legal ID at 0659:50: "730 Fox Sports is KQPN West Memphis, Arkansas Memphis, Tennessee;" Fox Sports network program at 0700. Poor in QRM. **(JW-CO)** 
  - **KYYA** MT Billings 9/8 0804 Billings Mustangs baseball update, ads, weather for the "Magic City"; back to *America's Morning News* at 0807. Fair at best in the group. (JW-CO)
  - WJMT WI Merrill 9/16 2241 "Here's your AccuWeather forecast on Country Seven-Thirty, The Patriot," into weather report followed by country music. (JDS-MN)
- **740 KRMG OK Tulsa** 9/19 0205 Fair under KVOX with, "AM 740 and FM 102.3," ID heard. Only 740/102.3 combo belongs to KRMG. **(RD-NE)**
- **790 KGHL MT Billings** 9/6 2024 Weak with ID: "...eastern Montana's...Mighty 790 KGHL", then songs "Friday Night Blues" by John Cole and "Some Broken Hearts Never Mind" by Don Williams. Confirmed via webstream, which was about 2 minutes behind. **(RD-NE)**
- **860 KWPC IA Muscatine** 9/18 2121 Good on day power with Rod Stewart oldie, then ID: "This is..86, KWPC, the Voice of Muscatine." **(RD-NE)**
- **950 KRWZ CO Denver** 9/22 0315 Fair over jumble, with ad for snow tires and mention of Colorado Avalanche. (**JEL-MO**)
  - WWJ MI Detroit 9/6 0334 Weak with report on president's visit to Detroit, then "WWJ News time is 4:37", followed by a news story about a man being arrested and charged with sexual assault of a young girl in Macomb County. Confirmed via webstream, and I really had to be patient while this fought with KRWZ's signal on the terrestrial side. (RD-NE)
- 980 WONE OH Dayton 9/9 2342 Good with Dayton Dragons baseball postgame show (opponent was the Lansing Lugnuts), then local ads. (RD-NE)
  - **CFPL ON London** 9/6 0517 Fair with news story about high school students in London, then time check in EDT. Finally heard City of License a few minutes later. **(RD-NE)**
  - CJME SK Regina 9/6 0522 Good with City of License, and mentions of "Weyburn" and "Saskatchewan" in promo. (RD-NE)
- 990 KWAM TN Memphis 9/6 0610 Good in CBW null with "AM 990" ID, then Memphis news stories. (RD-NE)
- **1010 KXEN MO St. Louis** 9/6 0429 Fair with promo for 9/11 special, then ID: "KXEN, St. Louis' Good News Station." **(RD-NE)**
- **MN Fergus Falls** 9/6 0419 Good in tight null of semi-local KMMQ w/ID as "the New Family 1020", then promo for tour of holy sites in Israel. KDKA underneath. **(RD-NE)**
- 1070 WEKT KY Elkton 9/6 0359 Good with "Kentucky" noted in legal ID, then string of

## WORLD CLASS GOSPEL MUSIC WEEKT 1070

southern Gospel and bluegrass gospel songs, although they included Buddy Jewell's "Sweet Southern Comfort" at 0407, which is more country than either of the other two genres. Confirmed via webstream, and heard exactly 24 hours before Earl Higgins in St. Louis got

'em. So they're definitely staying up all night (just like me!) if you need them. **(RD-NE)** 

- **KATQ MT Plentywood** 9/19 0744 Good with City of License announcements, and mention of 100.1 FM, and Plentywood in congratulatory 50th anniversary message from Montana Broadcasters Association president. **(RD-NE)**
- CHOK ON Sarnia 9/6 0357 Fair with C&W music, including "I've Been Watching You" by Rodney Atkins and "Don't Laugh At Me" by Mark Wills. Confirmed via

- webstream, and heard over/under WEKT. Nice to get 2 new ones on this channel in the space of just a few minutes, which was made possible by KLIO's picking a good time to take a deep fade. (RD-NE)
- **1220 WSLM IN** Salem 9/3 1941 Fair under WLPO with Indiana FB vs. Ball State, with playby-play by Don Fischer, who is in his 39<sup>th</sup> season as Voice of the Hoosiers. THAT's longevity, by golly. (**RD-NE**)
  - CJRB MB Boissevain 9/20 0341 Fair with classical music (Brahms' "Lullaby") via Radio Southern Manitoba. Confirmed by CHSM-1250 webstream, which was actually about a minute ahead of CJRB. (RD-NE)
- 1230 WFXN IL Moline 9/16 2227 Weak with Moline Maroons vs. Rock Island Rocks high school football. First time heard since the call letter change from WLLR. (RD-NE)
  - **KFJB IA Marshalltown** 9/7 1932 Very good with call-in program featuring Iowa head FB coach Kirk Ferentz and hosted by play-by-play voice Gary Dolphin. Only 1230 listed on the Hawkeye Network. **(RD-NE)**
  - **KYSM** MN Mankato 9/19 0831 Fair with Minnesota Vikings football discussion on The Fan network. //KLIZ-1380 and KXSS-1390. Finally heard call letters at 0859. (RD-NE)
- **1250 CHSM MB Steinbach** 9/20 0452 Weak with classical music (piano concerto) via Radio Southern Manitoba. Also confirmed by webstream. **(RD-NE)**
- **1280 KBNO CO Denver** 9/12 0559 Good with long Spanish legal ID, including mentions of stations KAVA and KXRE. (**RD-NE**)
- **1300 WNQM TN** Nashville 9/16 2148 LOUD on day power with contemporary Christian music, then an ID in both EE and SS, and an ad for a Nashville-area church, including 615 area code phone number. **(RD-NE)**
- **1310** KTWN MN Glencoe 9/6 0722 Good with "Classic Hits 1310 K-Twin," ID, then song "Little Rock" by Reba McIntire. Local ads heard at 0729. (RD-NE)
- **MN Minneapolis** 9/6 1918 Good and alone with "Relevant Radio" ID during commercial break of program *The Inner Life* with Father Jerome Tisch. Another "Relevant Radio" ID heard at 1929 during ad for Chevy-dealership in Belle Plaine. **(RD-NE)**
- **1350 WOAM IL Peoria** 9/18 2344 Good with promo for Monday through Friday agriculture program "on Peoria's hometown station, 1350 WOAM." Station is most definitely back on the air. **(RD-NE)** 
  - WKCU MS Corinth 9/19 0059 Fair with "WKCU" heard in legal ID. Noted a "1350 WKCU," ID by female at 0115. Most likely the station heard with Jeremy Camp's "Jesus Saves" and Steven Curtis Chapman's "Magnificent Obsession" before the top of the hour. Obviously left the 900 watt day rig on. (RD-NE)
  - KCHR MO Charleston 9/18 2146 Fair with "True Oldies Channel" programming. Only 1350 shown on the affiliate list on True Oldies Channel website (www.trueoldieschannel.com) (RD-NE)
  - WNVA VA Norton 9/18 2359 Weak but readable with "WNVA" heard in 2 second gap between the end of WOAM's legal ID and start of network news. Stayed around long after the top of the hour, and confirmed by the webstream. (RD-NE)
- **1380 KAGE MN Winona** 9/19 0808 Good with announcements of Rochester and Red Wing in local news, then announcement of Sept. 24th event at St. Mary's University in Winona. (**RD-NE**)
- **1390 KCLN IA Clinton** 9/2 2049 Good with ad for McEleney Chevrolet-Buick in Clinton, then back to coverage of Clinton Lumber Kings baseball. Had to deal with LOTS of lightning QRM, but persistence paid off. Thanks to Earl Higgins for the tip on this. **(RD-NE)** 
  - **KENN NM Farmington** 9/16 2354 Fair with promo, "...Monday through Friday here on 1390 KENN," then ad for insurance company with locations in Farmington and Bloomfield. **(RD-NE)**
- **1400 KCOG IA** Centerville 9/17 2059 Atop with ID that sounded like "...99.7 FM, 1400 AM, KCOG, Centerville." I definitely heard the AM mention, the call letters, and city-of-license, but the FM part is a mystery. There IS a 98.7 in Centerville, but the last I knew, its calls were KMGO, and I don't believe the AM was simulcasting the FM. (**RD-NE**)
- **1410 WIQR AL Prattville** 9/12 0216 Fair with sports talk, then ad for Papa John's in Prattville. **(RD-NE)**

- WING OH Dayton 9/16 2259 Good with ID: "WING, Dayton's new home for the Cincinnati Reds..." (RD-NE)
- **1450 WCEV** IL Cicero 9/9 2159 Surfaced with ID by female: "...information here on WCEV." (RD-NE)
- **1470 WVOL TN Berry Hill** 9/7 2249 Fair in mess with soul oldie "Something Is Wrong With My Baby" by Sam & Dave, then a clear "WVOL" ID, followed by song by Stevie Wonder. Had to have been on its day power at the time. **(RD-NE)**
- 1480 KTHS AR Berryville 9/12 0600 Fair with "Northwest Arkansas and southwest Missouri," heard in legal ID. (RD-NE)
- **1520** KMSR ND Mayville 9/6 1934 Fair under a tussle between KOLM and KOKC with Minnesota Twins baseball. Found this to be the only 1520 shown on the 2011 Twins network list. KRHW rose a few minutes later. (**RD-NE**)
  - **KZOY SD Sioux Falls** 9/17 2026 Fair under KOLM with "Everything She Wants" by Wham and "Stuck With You" by Huey Lewis and the News, then ID as "Sunny Radio 1520," Cleans up Sioux Falls on AM for me. **(RD-NE)**
  - **KKXA WA Snohomish** 8/31 0250 Interfering with KOKC Oklahoma City, with music. (**MR-UT**) *New station recently on the air DY*.
- **1570 WFRL** IL **Freeport** 9/12 2112 Good with promo for October 7th event at the Freeport Masonic Temple. **(RD-NE)**
- **1590 WAKR OH Akron** 9/10 0208 Very good with live "1590 WAKR," ID by male between "Ain't Too Proud To Beg" by the Temptations and "Silence Is Golden" by the Tremeloes. **(RD-NE)**

#### Tentative and UNID

**1290 KWFS TX Wichita Falls** – 9/22 0455 – Fair, over several UNID's, with mention of Houston Astros. Per the new edition the NRC *AM Radio Log*, this is likely the station I heard. **(JEL-MO)** 

#### Peculiar and Amazing

- 1010 KIHU UT Toole 8/19 through 8/21, station on day power all night. (MR-UT)
- **1160 KSL UT Salt Lake City** Station noted to be IBOC-less (yes, that is an adjective) from 7/31 to 8/14. **(MR-UT)**
- **1480 KRXR ID Gooding** Station seems to rarely power down at sunset. Per *NRC AM Radio Log*, power is 5000/93. **(MR-UT)**

Nice varied logs now that we are back to weekly publication. Thank you to my reporters. A reminder: I compile the column on Friday evenings local time, so it you get your reports to me by 0000 UTC Saturday, it will normally make that week's column. If not, it will be in the following week's column.

See you next time. (JDT-WA)

## Domestic DX Digest – East

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U.S./Canadian Loggings from Eastern/Atlantic Time Zones. All ELT.

#### **REPORTERS**

- **BC-NH** Bruce Conti, Nashua Excalibur SDR, MWDX-5, variable termination SuperLoop antennas northeast and south
- **HF-MI** Harold Frodge, Midland Drake R8B, 125 ft. bow-tie; 85 ft. RW & 180 ft. center-fed RW
- TLK-FL Terry L. Krueger, Manasota Key Sony ICF-2010, RadioShack non-active portable loop with lazy susan.
- HJH-PA Harry Hayes, Wilkes-Barre Grundig S350, Kiwa Pocket Loop
- **KK-VA** Kraig Krist, Manassas Winradio G33DDC, homemade 134 foot multiband antenna running NW to SE.
- MKB-ON Mike Brooker, Toronto Grundig G5, Grundig YB-400PE, Sony SRF-39FP, Panasonic RF-2200 (receiver emeritus)

#### TIS/HAR

**1640 HAR FL Charlotte County** – 9/16 1450 – Generic loop by female, "You are listening to... 1640 AM... provided by the Florida Dept. of Transportation... please tune to this station..." This was noted in November, 2010, then using calls WQMQ746, and may still actually be a series of synched transmitters in the I-75 construction zone, Charlotte County. Poor overall in WTNI co-channel. (TLK-FL)

#### **LOGGINGS**

- **540 WGOP MD Pocomoke City** 9/10 2001 Fair; reading prices for local sponsor's grocery items, "You're listening to the oldies but goodies... on WBEY 97.9..." **(BC-NH)**
- **VA** Harrisonburg 9/9 1955 High school football game mixing with talk from WGR, tire ad mentioning "both locations Harrisionburg and...." (KK-VA) (Note that all of Kraig's loggings were monitored at some time beginning at 1955 and ending at 2305 EDT. Mike)
- **WGAN** ME Portland 9/15 2000 Good; "News updates 24/7, breaking news immediately, Newsradio 560 WGAN Portland" into headlines, then long test tone, "This is Dial Global Radio Network, AMC8, transponder 13. To authorize your receiver contact Dial Global network operations..." and another test tone. (BC-NH)
- **590 WEZE MA Boston** 9/9 1955 In mix with station promo, "You're listening to 'Friday Night'... here on 5-90 WEZE...." **(KK-VA)**
- **680 WPTF** NC Raleigh 9/9 1955 In mix with NASCAR auto race, station promo "The station for Nascar...6-80 WPTF Raleigh." (KK-VA)
- **690 WELD WV Fisher** 9/10 2050 Good; ELO "Don't Let Me Down," WELD jingle, and Sly & the Family Stone "It's a Family Affair." **(BC-NH)**
- **740 WPAQ NC Mount Airy** 9/9 1955 In CFZM mix with high school football game, ad for 'The Derby South Main street in Bannertown." **(KK-VA)**
- **750 WBMD MD Baltimore** 9/10 1859 Fair; "We are listener supported Family Radio" and familyradio.com promo. (BC-NH)
- **780 WTME ME Rumford** 9/15 1900 Good; light oldies music, "The home of Laura Ingram, Dave Ramsey, and Maine's 10,000 watt powerhouse, AM 780 WTME Rumford, Lewiston, Farmington, AM 1450 WKTQ South Paris," then lost with night power cut. **(BC-NH)** 
  - WCKB NC Dunn 9/10 1930\* Fair; gospel music, then full-data sign-off ending simply with "Good evening." (BC-NH)
  - **WAVA VA Arlington** 9/9 1849 Good; concert promo with wava.com mention, "AM 780 WAVA" and Dr. Michael Brown program. **(BC-NH)**
- **800 WSHO LA New Orleans** 9/16 1350 Clear and fair with political talk show, ID. **(TLK-FL)**
- **860 WFMO NC Fairmont** 9/9 1955 In mix with R. Reloj time pips and FF talk on CJBC, high school football game with Gators vs Wolfpack. Ad mentioning phone number 910 642-1852. Area code 910 is SE North Carolina. Also ad mentioning "Columbus Regional Healthcare System 500 Jefferson street, Whiteville." Whiteville is near Fairmont. **(KK-VA)**
- 940 WMAC GA Macon 9/9 1955 In mix with Cuban Radio Reloj time pips and other stations (talk, religion, C&W), talk show and slogan "News talk 9-40 WMAC." (KK-VA)
  - WKGM VA Smithfield 9/15 1859 Fair; end of Dr. John Lenox ministry program from Atlanta, "This is AM 940 WKGM Smithfield... Hampton Roads..." into weather. (BC-NH)
- 950 WGOV GA Valdosta 9/9 1955 Mixing with talk, preaching and R. Reloj time pips, woman with station promo "your favorite songs back to back on Magic 95 WGOV" into song. (KK-VA)
- **960 WFGL MA Fitchburg** 9/15 1900 Good; "WFGL Fitchburg and WJWT Gardner" into UNI news headlines, then Calvary Radio Weather Center forecast. **(BC-NH)**
- 970 WFUN OH Ashtabula 9/10 2100 "ESPN 970 WFUN" heard through jumble. (BC-NH)
- WKCI VA Waynesboro 9/9 1955 In mix with Nascar race from the Richmond International Raceway, station promo "...racing... in the valley... WKCI Waynesboro...." (KK-VA)
- 990 WLEE VA Richmond 9/9 1955 In mix over other stations (high school football, Radio Disney, talk and Spanish) with Baltimore Orioles vs Toronto Blue Jays on the

- Orioles Baseball Network, IDs as "News talk 9-90 WLEE" and "You're listening to WLEE...." (KK-VA)
- CKGM QC Montreal 9/15 2000 Good; "This is CKGM 990 AM, The Team 990, Montreal's sports authority, a division of Bell Media" into sports news. (BC-NH)
- **1050 WMSG MD Oakland** 9/9 1955 In mix with Pittsburgh Pirates vs Florida Marlins on the Pirates Baseball Network. Checking pittsburgh.pirates.mlb.com the only affiliate on 1050 is WMSG. **(KK-VA)** 
  - **WADC WV Parkersburg** 9/9 1955 In mix with oldies, college football station promo: "West Virginia Mountaineer football this Saturday on WADC... Mountaineer football is right here on 10-50 WADC...." **(KK-VA)**
  - **CHUM ON Toronto** 9/9 1955 Sports talk in mix with WMSG, WADC, WEPN and others, station promo "This is game time on 10-50 TSN Toronto." **(KK-VA)**
- **1150 WDEL DE Wilmington** 9/9 1955 In multi-station mix with Brewers v. Phillies baseball game on Phillies network, ad for Tire Mart in Wilmington. (**KK-VA**)
  - **WJBO** LA Baton Rouge 9/9 1955 In mix (WLOC, CKOC, WDEL, WIMA) with station promo "...news leader WJBO...." (KK-VA)
  - WIMA OH Lima 9/9 1955 High school football in mix with WLOC, CKOC, WDEL and WJBO, station promo "Here on 11-50 WIMA." (KK-VA)



- 1160 WCCS PA Homer City 9/9 1955 In WYLL mix with high school football game, team and station promo: "Your home for the Wildcats...each week WCCS player of the week...." (KK-VA)
- 1190 WCRW VA Leesburg 9/20 1901 Over usual WOWO with "WCRW AM 1190" ToH ID, local weather into "Beijing today" China Radio International program. Ex-1200. (MKB-ON)
- **1200 WNBL WV Huntington** 9/9 1955 In CFGO mix with NOS or oldies songs, man with "WNBL..." ID. **(KK-VA)** 
  - **CFGO ON Ottawa** 9/9 1955 In WNBL mix with ESPN station promo "...sports radio at Team 12 hundred... ESPN radio Sports Center." **(KK-VA)**
- **1220 WGNY NY Newburgh** 9/20 1900 Fair; oldies, "WGNY Newburgh, Middletown... Fox Oldies 1220 and Fox Oldies 98.9" and ABC news, then lost with power cut. **(BC-NH)**
- **1230 WCMD MD Cumberland** 9/9 1955 In mix with WCRO, WGRY and others with usual ESPN radio programming, ToH ID: "ESPN radio 12-30 WCMD AM Cumberland...Alleghany Radio Corporation. ESPN radio 12-30." **(KK-VA)**
- **1240 WNBZ** NY Saranac Lake 9/16 1930 With a football game that featured Tupper Lake. Fair for several minutes. Later on had oldies w/jingle ID. Local WBAX off due to floods. (HJH-PA)
  - **WBBW** OH Youngstown 9/9 1930 "ESPN 96.7" ID snuck through the mess. WLLF FM in Mercer PA ID's this way, both are Cumulus stations and the WBBW logo is on their website, so suspect this. Local off due to floods. (HJH-PA)
  - **WSKI VT Montpelier** 9/16 1959 Full ID during ESPN sports format. Later had ID as "ESPN 1240 WSKI." This was the dominant signal here all evening. **(HJH-PA)**
  - WDNE WV Elkins 9/9 1955 In multi-station mix (talk, Phillies baseball) with oldies including Skyliners "I Only Have Eyes for You", station promos "Your favorites... WDNE..." and "Your original hits station...we're 12-30 WDNE". (KK-VA)
- **1250 WYKM WV Rupert** 9/9 1955 In mix with WGHB and Radio Disney station, woman with local weather, community calendar and ID as "You're listening to WYKM Rupert." **(KK-VA)**
- **1270 WXYT MI Detroit** 9/9 1955 In WCBC mix with Detroit Tigers baseball, woman with ToH ID: "WXYT AM FM Detroit, a CBS radio station." **(KK-VA)**
- **1280 WHVR PA Hanover** 9/9 1955 In mix with WADO and others with station promo: "Number 1...local news leader.... information...region. This is real country 12-80 WHVR Hanover" into news. **(KK-VA)**
- **ON London** 9/9 1955 Mixing with WHIO, WFBG and others with slogan "we have a lot to say at CJBK...." Promo for Flyers v. Red Wings hockey game, ToH ID "CJBK AM London news, talk 12-90." **(KK-VA)**

- **1310 WNAE PA Warren** 9/13 1928 Over usually dominant CIWW with ID during break in action of Pirates game v. Cardinals: "keep your dial set here for Pirates baseball all season long on WNAE 1310 Warren." **(MKB-ON)** 
  - CIWW ON Ottawa 9/9 1955 In mix with station promo "Remember to call the 13-10 news line...", report on Canada's job market, local ad for "City's Driver Training...citydriver.com." (KK-VA)
- **MD** Havre de Grace 9/20 2000 Fair, over others; Christian vocals, station promo "WJSS Havre de Grace, new and improved..." (BC-NH)
- 1460 WXBR MA Brockton 9/15 1959 Over usual copests CJOY and WHIC with local weather, "and that's your forecast for this day...on WXBR Brockton", suddenly dropped off at 2000, presumably due to power cut and pattern change. (MKB-ON)



- 1490 WERE OH Cleveland Heights 9/22 1959 Poking through WBTA and others in graveyard jumble with "...here on 1490 WERE" ToH ID into ABC news. Calls used to belong to another Cleveland station on 1300. (MKB-ON)
- **1590 WTVB** MI Coldwater 9/22 1743 Oldies, station promo "...7 days, on the 8th day we rest, AM 15-90 WTVB", ABC news. Fair, mixing with WAKR. Also noted brief spurts of FF, SS and Slavic language, presume all or part was WCGO Evanston IL. Hoping to catch WGBW Denmark WI who recently bumped day power to 10 kw. (HF-MI)
  - **WAKR** OH Akron 9/22 1743 Fair in WTVB mix with oldies, ToH ID as "WAKR the news authority" into local news; continued with oldies. (HF-MI)
- **1640 WTNI MS Biloxi** 9/16 1450 Poor with ESPN programming poking through with the FL DoT HAR station from Charlotte County slightly stronger co-channel. **(TLK-FL)**

## Musings of the Members

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

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

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

#### Rick Dau 2302 South 14th Street Omaha, NE 68108 < drummer1965usa@yahoo.com>

Hello to all in the NRC. I figured since I'm co-hosting this year's convention, I'd better be in the club. After taking a hiatus of 5+ years from the club and DXing beginning in May 2005, I got back into the hobby September of last year and rejoined the NRC just a few weeks ago. Great to see that Herr Schmidt is still editing this column. As a re-intro, I'm 46, still single, and employed as a route driver for an O'Reilly Auto Parts outlet in Omaha. Since about 1998, when I was still in Iowa City, I had been using a Sony ICF-2010 and a Quantum Loop for MW and LW purposes. Earlier this year, I overhauled my set-up, selling off both of those, and acquiring a Kenwood R-5000 (thank you, Sheldon Harvey!) and a Quantum QX Pro loop (similar to the original Quantum Loop, only that this comes with a toggle switch on the bottom of the loophead for LW DXing -- very nice to have when going after NDBs). I started a new logbook on 9/13/2010, which, back on August 16th, numbered 545 MW stations combined from the U.S., Canada, and Latin America -- as of this musing (9/19), it stands at 621. Best catches since mid-August have been WKCU-1350 Corinth, MS, KENN-1390 Farmington, NM, KATQ-1070 Plentywood, MT, and WEPN-1050 in New York City. I can only hope that the rest of this season will be as good as it's been over the past month. I had the opportunity to attend the 18th Annual Madison-Milwaukee DX Get-Together at Tim Noonan's place in Oak Creek back on August 20th. It was great to see so many friendly faces again after so many years away, this being the first Mad-Mil GTG I'd been to since 2000. By the time you read this, I will have moved into the address shown above. It's about 2 miles due south of downtown Omaha. My current headaches of KKAR-1290, KOZN-1620, and KFAB-1110 won't be quite so painful at the new QTH, although there is always KFAB's IBOC to deal with. The downside is that I will be a little closer to the transmitter of KOIL-1180. Thassit for now. 73, and hope to see many of you in Omaha in mid-October.

#### NATIONAL RADIO CLUB MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

The club is conducting this survey to gauge our ability to serve the needs of membership. It will take some time to answer all the questions. Your first response is the best. Overanalyzing, or trying to figure out what we want to hear will only cloud results. For example Question A09; If you DX every single day of the month for an hour, check 5. If only 15 days out of a month, check 3. Question A14; If you have an ultralight, but only use it 20% of the time, check 2. We're not only looking for a Yes/No answer, but also how much you favor a subject. If you do not want to answer, or don't know how to answer, leave it blank. The last page is for your personal comments. Please use original survey. No Copies. Do not submit multiple surveys. NRC Members only. Please return by 28 October 2011 to Debra S. Vobbe, 706 Mackenzie Drive, Lima OH 45805.

| Meı | Member Question  |       | agree | Agree        |     |     |
|-----|--|-------|-------|--------------|-----|-----|
| #   | Question   | 1     | 2     | 3            | 4   | 5   |
|     |  |       |       |              |     |     |
| A01 | I am very involved in the hobby of DX radio listening.   |       |       |              |     |     |
| A02 | I am a casual listener and don't chase DX, but find it interesting.  |       |       |              |     |     |
| A03 | My main interest is AM Radio DXing over other radio hobbies.   |       |       |              |     |     |
| A04 | The N.R.C. is my p <u>referred</u> club for the DXing hobby.   |       |       |              |     |     |
| A05 | Besides AM DX, I also DX FM and TV bands.  |       |       |              |     |     |
| A06 | Besides AM DX, I also DX shortwave (SWL).  |       |       |              |     |     |
| A07 | I collect airchecks, stickers, surveys, and other facets of radio.   |       |       |              |     |     |
| A08 | I will DX, or check what is on the radio every day.  |       |       |              |     |     |
| A09 | I spend more than an hour DXing every day.   |       |       |              |     |     |
| A10 | I keep a detailed log of what I have heard.  |       |       |              |     |     |
| A11 | I presently collect QSL Cards and verifications from stations.   |       |       |              |     |     |
| A12 | I am competitive. I like to try to best others in the club.  |       |       |              |     |     |
| A13 | I use high-end radios receivers, rather than small portables.  |       |       |              |     |     |
| A14 | I use small, handheld radios known as "Ultralights".   |       |       |              |     |     |
| A15 | I use (SDR) Software Defined Radios.   |       |       |              |     |     |
| A16 | I can, and have, put up large outdoor antennas at my home.   |       |       |              |     |     |
| A17 | I can, and have, put up antennas while on vacation or traveling.   |       |       |              |     |     |
| A18 | In the last 5 years I have gone on a DXpedition by myself or with friends. (conventions do not count).     |       |       |              |     |     |
| A19 | I DX all by myself. I seldom DX with friends.  |       |       |              |     |     |
| A20 | Each year I try to invest in new equipment for my hobby.   |       |       |              |     |     |
| A21 | I experiment with antennas and radios for best performance.  |       |       |              |     |     |
| A22 | I use the Internet to contact other DXers and find out DX info.  |       |       |              |     |     |
| A23 | I have time conflicts keeping me from DXing when I want.   |       |       |              |     |     |
| A24 | In the past 5 years, I have introduced other people to the hobby of BCB DX, or to the National Radio Club. |       |       |              |     |     |
| A25 | I am a licensed amateur radio operator.  | □ Yes |       | $\square$ No |     | O   |
| A26 | I have been a member of the National Radio Club for  |       |       |              | yea | rs. |
| A27 | For the majority of membership, what state/province have you lived in?                                     |       |       |              |     |     |
| A28 | I am: □ Single, □ Married, □ Partner. □ Male, □ Female □ Employed. □ Retired, □ Unemployed                 | Age:  |       |              |     |     |

| #   | Question   | 1   | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5   |
|-----|--|-----|---|---|---|-----|
|     |  |     |   |   |   |     |
| B01 | I subscribe to:  |     |   |   |   | oly |
|     | □ DX Audio Service (tape) □ E-DXN.com (on line)  |     |   |   |   |     |
| B02 | I read, or listen to, <u>every</u> article in DX News/DXAS magazine.   |     |   |   |   |     |
| B03 | When I receive my magazine, I read it within 24 hours.   |     |   |   |   |     |
| B04 | I read the magazine, but do not submit to columns.   |     |   |   |   |     |
| B05 | I am interested in what other DXers have logged, and read columns such as DDXD/IDXD.                             |     |   |   |   |     |
| B06 | I report what I hear to the DDXD or IDXD columns.  |     |   |   |   |     |
| B07 | I am interested in product reviews, member's equipment suggestions, and technical data on radios and antennas.   |     |   |   |   |     |
| B08 | I am interested in D.I.Y. or how-to-build technical articles where I can build something I can use in the hobby. |     |   |   |   |     |
| B09 | I am interested in non-technical articles about people in radio, the hobby, and the stations on the air.         |     |   |   |   |     |
| B10 | Information in the AM Switch column is important to me.  |     |   |   |   |     |
| B11 | I use the information in AM Switch to update my NRC Log.   |     |   |   |   |     |
| B12 | I let the editor of the magazine know of changes in my town.   |     |   |   |   |     |
| B13 | I report my loggings to e-mail lists and DX forums.  |     |   |   |   |     |
| B14 | I have used dxtip@nrcdxas.org to tell others about DX I hear.  |     |   |   |   |     |
| B15 | I am interested in columns such as DXAS Bandscan.  |     |   |   |   |     |
| B16 | I am interested in DX tests, or scheduled tests.   |     |   |   |   |     |
| B17 | I am interested in, and participate in, DX contests.   |     |   |   |   |     |
| B18 | I send news/articles to the publishers of DXN/DXAS.  |     |   |   |   |     |
| B19 | I am interested in Sports Networks/Flagship Stations listings.   |     |   |   |   |     |
| B20 | The magazine's format is easily read and professionally done.  |     |   |   |   |     |
| B21 | Please list, in order, your favorite <b>DX News</b> Columns:   |     |   |   |   |     |
|     | 1 2 3  | 4_  |   |   |   |     |
|     | 5 6 7  | 8_  |   |   |   |     |
| B22 | Please list, in order, your favorite <b>DX Audio Service</b> Columns:  |     |   |   |   |     |
|     | 13   | 4_  |   |   |   |     |
|     | 5 6 7  | 8 _ |   |   |   |     |
| B23 | I have purchased an NRC AM Radio Log in the last 5 years.  |     |   |   |   |     |
| B24 | I purchase a new NRC AM Radio Log each or every other year.  |     |   |   |   |     |
| B25 | I find the NRC AM Log the best source for information on AM.   |     |   |   |   |     |
| B26 | I am aware of products sold by the NRC Publications Center.  |     |   |   |   |     |
| B27 | I have purchased items from the Pub Center in the last 5 years.  |     |   |   |   |     |
| B28 | I have purchased books from other sources on the radio hobby.  |     |   |   |   |     |
| B29 | I buy books from on-line sources such as Amazon.com.   |     |   |   |   |     |
| B30 | I find everything I need on-line at no charge.   |     |   |   |   |     |

Disagree

Agree

**Publication Content** 

| Conv | tion Questions   |   | agree | <u> </u> | Agree |   |  |
|------|--|---|-------|----------|-------|---|--|
| # Q  | Question   | 1 | 2     | 3        | 4     | 5 |  |
|      |  |   |       |          |       | _ |  |
| C01  | I am interested in attending a club-sponsored convention.  |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C02  | I attend regional get-togethers, but not NRC conventions.  |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C03  | I have attended conventions in the past, but no more.  |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C04  | Since 2006, I've attended 2 or more NRC Conventions.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C05  | I have attended half the conventions since joining the NRC.  |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C06  | I won't attend a convention unless it's within 3 hours travel.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C07  | I am capable of driving to the NRC Convention.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C08  | I can use public transportation to attend. (air/train/bus)   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C09  | I would be willing to car pool with someone to attend.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C10  | Any location for a convention is good, even a small town.  |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C11  | I like a flexible Convention date, other than Labor Day.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C12  | I must schedule time off with my employer to attend.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
|      | I have had work, or family obligations, keep me from attending   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
|      | one or more conventions.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C14  | Finances have kept me from attending conventions.  |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C15  | A top notch, name-brand hotel is important to me.  |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C16  | A hotel with a restaurant is important to me.  |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C17  | The hotel/convention must be near fast food restaurants.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C18  | I would be willing to share a room to cut room costs.  |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C19  | Travel + hotel room costs affect my decision to attend.  |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C20  | Convention registration costs affect my decision to attend.  |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C21  | I would bring family if there was a discount for them to attend.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
|      | I go primarily to meet other people in the club.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
|      | I enjoy going on radio station and tower tours.  |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C24  | I enjoy tours other than radio stations.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C25  | I would enjoy daytime seminars on Saturday and Sunday.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C26  | The convention should provide antennas and receivers to use.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C27  | There should be entertainment. (ie: Candy Quiz, WNRC, games, etc)  |   |       |          |       |   |  |
|      | I expect pre-planned activities for each whole day of my stay.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C29  | A convention should have a formal banquet on Saturday night.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
|      | There should be a guest speaker following the banquet.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
|      | I would pay a little more to add a Saturday lunch.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
|      | I would pay a little more to add a Friday night dinner.  |   |       |          |       |   |  |
|      | Conventions should be 2-day, Friday and Saturday, only.  |   |       |          |       |   |  |
|      | Conventions should be held over two days: Fri and Sat.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C35  | I prefer conventions announced 1 year prior to the convention. (2012 convention announced at the 2011 convention.) |   |       |          |       |   |  |
|      | Items at the NRC auction are good value and worth bidding.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
|      | Conventions are better <u>now</u> than 5 to 10 years ago.  |   |       |          |       |   |  |
|      | I do not mind having co-conventions with other clubs.  |   |       |          |       |   |  |
|      | I have hosted a convention in the past for the club.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
|      | I would consider hosting a convention in the future.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
|      | I would co-host if additional members would help me.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |
| C41  | 1 would co-nost if additional members would help me.   |   |       |          |       |   |  |

| Use this sheet to make comment, suggestions or ways we can better serve you through our publications conventions. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
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If you have additional thoughts, or need to go into more detail, please use additional sheets of paper. Mail this back as soon as possible. Deadline is October 28, 2011. Your participation is important to the National Radio Club.

## International Bruce Conti contiba@gmail.com 46 Ridgefield Drive DX Digest Nashua, NH 03062-1174

Loggings of stations outside the Lower 48 and Canada. All times UTC.

#### Trans-Atlantic DX

- 162 **FRANCE** *France Inter*, Allouis AUG 31 2353 Man in French; good. [Black-MA]
- 171 MOROCCO R. Mediterranee Int'l, Nador AUG 31 2354 Female with American pop vocal; good. [Black-MA]
- ICELAND Rikisútvarpid, Gufuskálar AUG 31 2355 American pop music; poor. [Black-MA]
- 225 POLAND Polskie Radio 1, Solec Kujawski AUG 31 2356 Light opera music; fair. [Black-MA]
- 252 **IRELAND** RTE Radio 1, Clarkestown AUG 31 2357 American dixieland music, then man with time check, "one o'clock," then woman with news; good. [Black-MA]
- 531 ALGERIA Chaîne 1, F'kirina Wilaya d'Oum El Bouaghi AUG 31 2359 Parallel better 549 (Les Trembles) Arabic music, top of the hour pips (5 regular and last shorter and higher pitch), woman with ID, theme music and then man in Arabic. Poor mixing with Spain on top. [Black-MA]
- **ALGERIA** *Chaîne 1*, Les Trembles AUG 31 2359 Parallel 531 Arabic music, top of the hour pips (5 regular and last shorter and higher pitch), woman with ID, theme music and then man in Arabic; fair. [Black-MA]
- 576 **GERMANY** SWR Cont. Ra, Baden-Wurttemberg AUG 31 2359 Woman in German; poor. [Black-MA]
- 585 **SPAIN** RNE1 Madrid AUG 31 2359 Man and woman in Spanish parallel 621 kHz; poor. [Black-MA]
- 621 CANARY ISLANDS//SPAIN RNE1 synchros AUG 31 2359 Man and woman in Spanish, pips, RNE theme then man and woman in Spanish parallel 585 kHz; fair [Black-MA]
- RNE1 La Coruña et al. AUG 31 2359 Man and woman in Spanish, pips, RNE theme then man and woman in Spanish parallel 621 kHz; fair. [Black-MA]
- 693 UNITED KINGDOM BBC Radio 5, Droitwich et al. AUG 31 2359 Man and woman with news, BBC mention; poor-fair. [Black-MA]
- 738 **SPAIN** RNE1 Barcelona AUG 31 2359 Man and woman in Spanish, pips, RNE theme then man and woman in Spanish parallel 621 kHz; fair. [Black-MA]
- 747 **NETHERLANDS** *Radio 5 Nostalgia*, Zeewolde AUG 31 2358 Pop music, time pips, woman in Dutch with news; poor. [Black-MA]
- 774 **SPAIN** RNE1 synchros AUG 31 2359 Woman in Spanish, pips, theme, and man with "Radio Nacional de España, informativos" ID; good. [Black-MA]
- R.Mauritanie, Nouakchott AUG 31 2354 Arabic singing, then man in Arabic and stringed instrumental; fair-good. [Black-MA]
- 792 FRANCE France Info, Limoges AUG 31 2358 Pop music, top of the hour France Info theme, man in French; poor. [Black-MA]
- CANARY ISLANDS//SPAIN COPE synchros AUG 31 2358 Woman in Spanish, pips and theme, man with "informativos." Fair. [Black-MA]
- RNE1 Murcia et al. AUG 31 2356 'Autumn Leaves' vocal, man and woman in Spanish, RN pips, theme and "informativos." Fair. [Black-MA]
- 891 unID SEP 21 0000 Huge het against 890 WAMS. [Conti-NH]
- 909 UNITED KINGDOM BBC Radio 5 synchros AUG 31 2359 Man and woman with UK and world news items; fair-good. [Black-MA]
- 945 **FRANCE** France Info, Toulouse AUG 31 2358 Female pop vocal, France Info theme, time check and man with news in French; good. [Black-MA]
- 963 SPAIN R.Euskadi, Biribilondo AUG 31 2358 Pips then woman with "Radio Euskadi y Radio Vitoria" IDs, then woman in Spanish; fair. [Black-MA]
- 972 **GERMANY** NDR Info, Hamburg AUG 31 2359 Woman in German with news; poor-fair. [Black-MA]
- 981 ALGERIA Chaîne 2, Ouled Fayet AUG 31 2358 Arabic music, pips and woman with ID and theme music, then man in Arabic; good. [Black-MA]
- 999 **IRAN** *IRIB* Baneh AUG 31 2359 Presumed. Chanting; fair. [Black-MA]

- **SPAIN** *COPE* Madrid AUG 31 2358 Woman in Spanish, pips and theme, man with "informativos." Poor-fair. [Black-MA]
- **SPAIN** SER synchros AUG 31 2358 Parallel 1044 time pips, theme music, woman and man in Spanish with news; fair. [Black-MA]
- **SPAIN** SER synchros AUG 31 2358 Parallel 1026 time pips, theme music, woman and man in Spanish with news; fair. [Black-MA]
- **MOROCCO** *SNRT* Beni Makada AUG 31 2358 Arabic singing not parallel Libyan frequencies. Poor in mix with UK and Spain. [Black-MA]
- **SPAIN** *SER* synchros AUG 31 2358 Pips, theme fanfare then man in Spanish; poor, under WTIC. [Black-MA]
- **UNITED KINGDOM** *TalkSport* synchros AUG 31 2358 Men in sport discussion, ad spots and promos, then news by David Spenser. Loud 1088 Angola het but no audio. Good. [Black-MA]
- **SPAIN** *RNE5* synchros AUG 31 2359 Pips and *RNE* theme then woman with news in Spanish; poor. [Black-MA]
- **SPAIN** *RNE5* synchros AUG 31 2358 Woman in Spanish, pips and RN theme, man with "informativos." Fair. [Black-MA]
- **SPAIN** *SER* synchros AUG 31 2358 Parallel 1026 pips and "Dixie" like fanfare, woman with "Cadena Ser" then man in Spanish; fair. [Black-MA]
- **IRAN** *IRIB1* Nehbanden AUG 31 2355 Presumed. Chanting; poor. [Black-MA]
- **SPAIN** RNE synchros AUG 31 2358 Pips, RN theme music and man with "Informativos," then woman with news in Spanish; fair. [Black-MA]
- **SPAIN** *COPE* synchros AUG 31 2358 Woman in Spanish. Pips, theme and woman with news. Poor-fair mixing with presumed Iran. [Black-MA]
- **SPAIN** *COPE* synchros AUG 31 2356 Woman in teletalk, pips, theme, then woman in Spanish with news; fair. [Black-MA]
- **SPAIN** *RNE5* synchros AUG 31 2358 Pips, theme music, Radio Nacional ID, then man with "Informativos" and woman with news in Spanish; fair. [Black-MA]
- **SLOVENIA** *R.Capodistria/R.Slovenia Int'l*, Beli Kriz AUG 31 2358 Pop music, pips (5 reg, last higher pitch), man with ID and then woman with news. *R.Slovenia Int'l* this time per EMWG. Fair-good. [Black-MA]
- 1179 CANARY ISLANDS//SPAIN SER synchros AUG 31 2358 Parallel 1026 pips and fanfare, woman with "Cadena Ser" then man in Spanish. Good over pop music from Romania. [Black-MA]
- **IRAN** *IRIB R.Payam*, Tehran AUG 31 2358 Man chanting, three note chime and fanfare then man in Farsi with Payam mention; poor. [Black-MA]
- **FRANCE** *France Info*, Bordeaux AUG 31 2359 Pop music, *France Info* theme, time check and man in French; very good. [Black-MA] SEP 20 2300 Fair; fanfare and woman in French. [Conti-NH]
- **UNITED KINGDOM** *Absolute Radio* synchros AUG 31 2359 Rock music, ads and promos with *Absolute Radio* mentions. Good over Spain. [Black-MA]
- **SPAIN** *COPE* synchros AUG 31 2358 Woman in Spanish, pips, *COPE* theme then woman and man in Spanish; fair. [Black-MA]
- **FRANCE** *France Info*, Marseille AUG 31 2359 Pop music, *France Info* theme and ID parallel other *France Info* outlets; fair. [Black-MA]
- **SPAIN** *RNE5* synchros AUG 31 2358 Pips and theme music, man with "Radio Nacional de España, informativos." [Black-MA] SEP 20 2358 Fair with faint synchro echo; pop vocal leading up to time marker, fanfare, "Radio Nacional de España, Informativos," parallel fair 1314 kHz. [Conti-NH]
- **UNITED ARAB EMIRATES** *R.Farda,* Al Dhabbaya AUG 31 2353 US pop "Killing Me Softly," then Arabic singing and music, man with "Radio Farda" ID; good over Spain. [Black-MA]
- **IRAN** *R.Tehran*, Tehran AUG 31 2356 Presumed. String instrumental and song, woman in presumed Farsi, then man chanting; fair. [Black-MA]
- NORTHERN IRELAND BBC R.Ulster, Lisnagarvey AUG 31 2356 Man in accent, BBC mention, pips (5 short, 1 long) musical fanfare, then woman with BBC news; poor-fair. [Black-MA]
- **FRANCE** *France Info*, Lille AUG 31 2358 US pop music, *France Info* theme, man in French with ID and time check (deux heures) and ID; very good. [Black-MA]
- **SPAIN** *Euskadi Irratia*, Bilbao AUG 31 2358 Parallel 1476 rock music, then man in Basque and pop music, pips (5-1) and man with apparent ID in Basque; fair. [Black-MA]
- **FRANCE** France Info, various AUG 31 2359 US pop music, France Info theme, man in French with ID and time check (deux heures) and ID; good. [Black-MA]

- **SPAIN** *RNE5* synchros AUG 31 2358 Pips, theme music, Radio Nacional ID, then man with "Informativos" and woman with news in Spanish; good. [Black-MA]
- **ALGERIA** *R.Algérienne*, Algiers AUG 31 2358 Arabic singing with stringed instrument and drums, pips and man in French with *R.Algeria* ID, then man in French; good. [Black-MA]
- **GERMANY** *Deutschlandfunk*, Heusweiler AUG 31 2400 Man in German with world news items; good. [Black-MA]
- **DJIBOUTI** *R.Sawa*, Arta AUG 31 2356 US pop music and Arabic music. 0001 woman with "Radio Sawa" ID. Fair. [Black-MA]
- **LUXEMBOURG** *RTL* Marnach AUG 31 2358 Relaying CRI in English, then man in German announcing KBS segment beginning at 2400 and Luxembourg National anthem; fair-good. [Black-MA]
- **LIBYA** *Voice of Free Libya Mesrata*, Al-Assah AUG 31 2356 Men in Arabic teletalk, then Arabic music and singing. No apparent ID detected. One of the most consistently good signals over the hour recorded. Very good. [Black-MA]
- **ROMANIA** *Romania Actualitati*, Constanta AUG 31 0000 Man in Romanian. Fair, verified Sylvain Naud via RealDX. [Black-MA]
- **UNITED KINGDOM** *Sunrise Radio*, Brookmans Park AUG 31 2357 Man with "24 hours a day this is Sunrise Radio," then woman with ad spots and news; fair. [Black-MA]
- **SPAIN** *Euskadi Irratia,* Biribilondo AUG 31 2358 Parallel 1386 rock music, then man in Basque and pop music, pips (5-1) then man with apparent ID in Basque. [Black-MA]
- **MELILLA**//**SPAIN** *SER* synchros AUG 31 2359 Time pips, *SER* fanfare, woman with ID, then man in Spanish parallel other *SER* outlets; poor. [Black-MA]
- **FRANCE** *France Info* synchros AUG 31 2359 Pop music, 4 pips, theme music and man in French with ID and time check (deux heures); poor-fair. [Black-MA]
- **SPAIN** *RNE5* synchros AUG 31 2358 Pips, theme music, Radio Nacional ID, then man with "Informativos" and woman with news in Spanish. [Black-MA]
- **SAUDI ARABIA** *BSKSA* Duba AUG 31 2358 Arabic music, theme music and man in Arabic; very good. [Black-MA]
- **SPAIN** *SER R.Castellon*, Ctra Valencia AUG 31 2358 Parallel 1026 pips and "Dixie" like fanfare, woman with "Cadena Ser" then man in Spanish; poor-fair under Saudi. [Black-MA]
- **FRANCE** *France Info*, Fontbonne AUG 31 Pop music, theme music and man in French with ID and time check (deux heures); very good. [Black-MA]
- **UNITED ARAB EMIRATES** *R.Farda*, Al Dhabiya AUG 31 2359 Pips (5 reg, 1 longer), female torch song, then man with "Radio Farda" ID then more Arabic music; very good. [Black-MA]
- **KUWAIT** *VOA/R.Free Iraq*, Kuwait City AUG 31 2359 Man in Arabic with news, snip of clip in English; poor. [Black-MA]
- **SPAIN** *R.Vitoria*, Vitoria AUG 31 2358 Pop music, pips (5 reg 1 longer), woman with Euskadi ID, then woman in Spanish with news; fair. [Black-MA]

#### Pan-American DX

- MEXICO XEPL Cd. Cuauhtémoc, Chih SEP 5 1201 Mexican anthem, followed by canned ID: "Sintonice Ud. XEPL, La Super Estación, amplitud modulada en los 550 kHz con 5000 wats de poder efectivo desde Cuauhtémoc, Chihuahua, Mexico..." This was followed by a 5-minute program "Mundo de Trabajo," a program from Mexico City consisting of labor news. Fair/good signal with local 560 KLZ IBOC noise mostly nulled. [Wilkins-CO]
- 555 ST. KITTS & NEVIS ZIZ Basseterre SEP 11 0155 Good; soca party music. [Conti-NH]
- **MEXICO** XEXZ *Ke Buena*, Zacatecas, Zac SEP 19 1118 End of Mexi-tune,"¡Ke Buena!" by male, mention of México, back to Mexi-tunes. Slowly overtaken by Miami sports talk WQAM, and gone by 1132 UTC. [Krueger-C\*FL]
- **CUBA** *R.Rebelde*, multiple sites SEP 16 0045 Good; Puerto Rico vs. Cuba baseball, Rebelde sounder, parallel 5025 kHz. [Conti-NH]
- **VENEZUELA** YVLL *R.Rumbos*, Caracas AUG 31 2359 Man in Spanish with Venezuela mention, then woman with jingle ID and "Radio Rumbos." Fair-good. [Black-MA]
- **CUBA** *R.Progreso*, Jovellanos SEP 11 0100 Good, over WELD; romántica parallel 640 kHz. [Conti-NH]
- MEXICO XERV Villahermosa, Tab SEP 11 1058 Tune-in to Spanish CHR format vocals, 1103 male canned ID, "XHRVI, 106.3 FM... México... Yo FM" and back to vocal. XERV calls were probably in there too, but not caught. Female, "Yo FM, Yo FM" at 1106. Very good and alone on the channel, until XEVC came up at 1111, then poor underneath. Listed as 2500/500 watts. Fred Cantú's online list confirms "Yo" is simulcast here. No anthem at 1100, so I wondered if it's not a requirement on FM. I posed the question to Fred. His response: "It varies by station. Some 24-hour stations broadcast the national anthem at 5:00 a.m. or 6:00

a.m. local time (whichever) they consider the start of their broadcast day." And later: "Oh, some will broadcast the anthem at midnight if they consider that the start of their broadcast day." So, apparently 6 a.m. local is not set in stone, though obviously the most common time. [Krueger-C\*FL]

**MEXICO** XEVC Córdoba, Ver SEP 11 1111 - Possibly signing on or coinciding with power bump-up, as no trace of until the vocal anthem began at 1111, followed by male XEVC ID (no



listed "Ke Buena" slogan noted) and immediately into the Veracruz state anthem, followed by another XEVC ID and into Mexi-tunes. Fairly good, over XERV until both faded out by 1125. The only Veracruz station on 700 per Fred Cantú's online list. Listed as 2500/1000 watts. [Krueger-C\*FL]

**VENEZUELA** YVQE *R.Venezuela 'Oriente'*, Porlamar AUG 31 2359 – Man in Spanish with "En Venezuela Oriente" ID, promos and Venezuela and Oriente mentions and jingles; good. [Black-MA]

- **CUBA** *R.Progreso*, La Fe, Isla de la Juventud SEP 19 1010 Audio about two seconds behind flagship 640 kHz. [Krueger-C\*FL]
- **CUBA** *R.Progreso*, Palmira SEP 11 0149 Fair; promo, "...de la onda de la alegría," and folk music, parallel 690 kHz. [Conti-NH]
- **VENEZUELA** YVKS *RCR* Caracas AUG 31 2353 Man in Spanish with ads and promos, Venezuela and 'baseball' mention, then "Take me out to the ball game" on organ, presume prelude to baseball game. Fair in and out with CBC Newfoundland. [Black-MA]
- **MEXICO** unID SEP 18 1103 Choral anthem poking though but nothing else. [Krueger-C\*FL]
- MEXICO XEMQ Mérida, Yuc SEP 16 1729 Spanish ballads, definite Spanish announcer, co-channel ZNS3 Freeport, Grand Bahama. Both very poor. No ID, and currently listed as W Radio or FM 90.9 on Fred Cantú's website, which would at least match no longer being in indigenous Mayan dialects/Spanish Radio Yóol Iik, when last logged as such mid-day up the coast at Ft. DeSoto a couple of years ago. México and the Bahamas on the same channel mid-day: it doesn't get much better than this. [Krueger-M\*FL]
- **CUBA** *R.Ciudad de la Habana*, Arroyo Arenas SEP 16 1740 Good with Spanish vocals, ID. [Krueger-M\*FL]
- **BRAZIL** ZYJ459 *CBN* Rio de Janeiro AUG 31 2357 Man preaching in Portuguese; poor. [Black-MA]
- **MEXICO** XESW Cd. Madera, Chih SEP 19 1203 Mexican anthem, followed by flowery ID at 1206, beginning with "Viva nuestra independencia..."; announced call letters, power (5000 watts, I think), location, slogans ("La Mera Mera" and "La Radio Que Manda"), and a couple of other items that I did not copy; I think a prayer followed but the signal had already started to fade and soon disappeared into the jumble. Ex-1300 and a new one here, XE #229 and Chihuahua #49. [Wilkins-CO]
- **BRAZIL** ZYH625 *CBN* Fortaleza AUG 31 2355 Presumed. Man in Portuguese; poor under WINS. [Black-MA]
- **CUBA** *Radio* 26, Matanzas SEP 16 1556 Clear, fair in passing. No trace of WLNO New Orleans. [Krueger-M\*FL]
- **CUBA** *R.Cadena Habana*, Villa María SEP 17 1256-1315 ID, program promos, into bantering between two announcers, vocals from 1311 UTC. [Krueger-C\*FL]
- **BERMUDA** VSB3 Hamilton AUG 31 2358 Top of the hour time pips (5/1), BBC World News ID, then man and woman with news; fair. [Black-MA]
- **CUBA** *R.Rebelde*, multiple sites AUG 31 2357 Vocal in Spanish, then organ Rebelde theme and man with "Radio Rebelde, la emisora de las revolución." Fair. [Black-MA]
- **BRAZIL** ZYJ458 *R.Globo*, Rio de Janeiro AUG 31 2358 Man in Portuguese announcing sporting event. São Paulo and Globo mentions. Fair. [Black-MA]
- **CUBA** *R.Rebelde*, unknown site SEP 16 1802 Fair when WAMA Tampa and WRHC Coral Gables (both Spanish) nulled. Listed Nuevitas, Camagüey site is incorrect. This one is approximately 188-degrees on the Benmar RDF unit when compared to other known station sites to the east east and west, likely from Nueva Gerona, Isla de la Juventud. Also interestingly, audio was about a second behind the strongest of the 1180 transmitters. [Krueger-M\*FL] *The CTOM list compiled and promulgated by Mauricio Molano (DXN 78-26) lists several sites.*

#### **Contributors**

Chris Black N1CP, Fort Hill Park, Eastham MA; Microtelecom Perseus SDR, terminated Delta antenna.

Bruce Conti, Nashua NH; WiNRADiO Excalibur, 7 x 19.5-m variable termination Split SuperLoop at 60°, 15 x 23-m variable termination north/south SuperLoop.

Terry L. Krueger, Clearwater FL; JRC NRD-535, ICOM IC-R75, Hammarlund HQ-180A, Aqua Guide 705 Radio Direction Finder, Sangean PR-D5, Sony ICF-7600GR, GE SuperRadio III, RadioShack DX-399, 1 X roof dipole, 1 X in-room random wire.

Terry L. Krueger, Manasota Key, FL; Benmar RDF, Sony ICF-2010, Radio Shack loop. John Wilkins, Wheat Ridge CO; Drake R8, 4-foot box loop.

73 and Good DX!

### NRC/WTFDA Joint Convention 2011

Comfort Inn & Suites, 7007 Grover Street, Omaha NE October 13-16, 2011

This year's convention will be dedicated to the late Bruce Elving.

Your last chance to register for the National Radio Club/WTFDA Convention! The convention will be held at the Comfort Inn and Suites at 7007 Grover Street, Omaha Nebraska 68106. The Inn is located north east of I-80 at the 72nd Street exit number 449.

Activities will begin at 3 P.M. on Thursday, October 13. Tours and demonstrations are scheduled all day Friday. There will also be the business meeting, the Quiz, a speaker of interest, and the banquet – all included in your registration fee. October 13 is the average frost date in Omaha – so the trees will still be green! Mark Durenberger will have a slide program following the banquet on Saturday evening, and Matt Sittel is planning a patio party at his home and a TV demonstration one day at the hotel. Everything ends after breakfast on Sunday morning. Come join us!

#### Registration and Hotel Information

Please register by October 1 – the convention fee is US\$45 per person; children (age 11 and under) US\$13. Please make checks payable to: National Radio Club and mail them to Ernest J. Wesolowski, 13312 Westwood Lane, Omaha, NE 68144-3543. You may also register on line, *using Pay Pal Only*, at the National Radio Club website <a href="http://www.nrcdxas.org">http://www.nrcdxas.org</a>. Bring auction items, or send them to Ernie at the address above.

Make your reservations directly with the hotel at *Area Code 402 934-4900; this is the ONLY number to receive our convention rate*! You *MUST mention the NRC/WTFDA Convention Rate* of \$75 plus tax = \$88.62 per night which is for 1 to 4 persons per room.

We have Ballroom "C," a hospitality room on the 3rd floor, an airport and bus shuttle, deluxe continental breakfast, guest laundry, 24 hour fitness room and business center, and a large indoor pool.

### NOAA Space Weather Outlook

Issued September 20 – For the period September 21-October 17, 2011

Solar activity is expected to be at low to moderate levels from September 21-23. On September 24-October 8, activity is expected to increase to moderate levels with a slight chance for major flare activity as old Region 1283 (N14, L=226) rotates onto the visible disk. Solar activity is expected to return to predominantly low to moderate levels for the remainder of the period.

No proton events are expected at geosynchronous orbit until September 23. There is a slight chance for a proton enhancement from September 24 until October 8 as old Region 1283 returns to the visible disk. No proton events are expected from 09 October until the end of the period.

The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit is expected to be at mostly normal to moderate levels. High levels are expected on September 26-28 and again on October 2-3, 11-13 due to influences from coronal hole high speed streams.

Geomagnetic field activity is expected to be mostly from September 21-25. Unsettled conditions are expected on September 25 sand 27 due to CH HSS activity. On September 30 to October 1, a recurrent CH-HSS is expected to bring unsettled to occasionally active periods of geomagnetic activity. Mostly quiet conditions are expected again until October 8 when another recurrent CH HSS is expected to become geoeffective. Unsettled to Active conditions are expected with minor storm periods possible at high latitudes until 11 October. Mostly quiet conditions are expected from 12 October through the end of the period.

(From http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/ftpdir/weekly/WKHF.txt)

## July 2011 Oregon Beach Ultralight DXpedition

#### The Dream Antenna for Pocket Radios Makes its Astonishing Debut

Gary DeBock, Puyallup, WA, USA

August 2011

Ultralight radio transoceanic DXing has never been for the faint of heart. Except for those of us fortunate enough to live on isolated ocean beaches (away from major population centers) we face a

pretty rough challenge in tracking down the more exotic DX countries. The recent introduction of 1 kHz DSP filtering in the Tecsun models has improved our chances of success somewhat, but our Ultralights still need a quantum leap in weak-signal capability to be competitive. We can only chase DX on one frequency at a time, and our tiny radios had better be competitive on that one frequency. We need a low noise, extremely high gain antenna to give us a fighting chance to receive exotic DX with our not-so-exotic radios---preferably one which can follow us anywhere, set up on a picnic table, and fit in a small plastic tote. And oh yes, the antenna must be razor sharp in tuning, cover the entire MW band, and outperform antennas many times its size.



The concept of such a dream antenna has been in the realm of science fiction since our hobby began, but now it's time to wake up from the dream and enjoy an exciting new reality! An innovative ferrite-based antenna has been designed, refined and deployed—giving Ultralight radio DXers the awesome new capability to enjoy outstanding weak-signal performance from an antenna about one cubic foot in size. The Ferrite Sleeve Loop antenna has arrived, and competitive models are already transforming the entire experience of DXing in extremely tight spaces.

The Impossible Challenge. Around February my wife gave me the surprise news that her sister and niece from Hong Kong would accompany us during our summer vacation to Oregon this year, during which I had planned to chase South Pacific DX as usual. While eager to welcome them, I gasped at the idea of our Toyota Corolla accommodating five passengers, all their vacation necessities and also competitive DXpedition gear (you can probably guess what would be the lowest priority!). It seemed that no high-gain antenna on the planet would be able to fit into the compact car trunk, which was certain to be absolutely crammed. Even the 3' portable PVC air-core loop (from last July's Oregon trip) was completely out of the question. It seemed like competitive transoceanic DXing during this year's Oregon beach trip would be impossible—or would it?

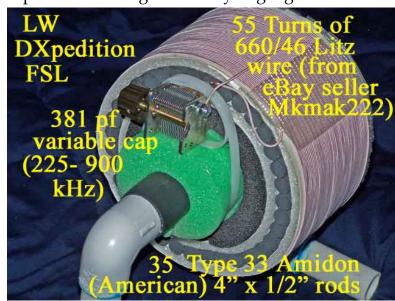
Graham Maynard Introduces a Bizarre New Antenna. Just before resigning myself to the fate of a summer without exotic South Pacific DX, I received an extremely welcome advance copy of noted U.K. experimenter Graham Maynard's Ferrite Sleeve Loop Antenna article (later published in the March edition of Medium Wave News). The article described a very compact, high-performance antenna composed of multiple ferrite rods arranged in a cylindrical pattern, then wrapped with a coil of wire tuned by a variable capacitor. Although several of Graham's theoretical concepts became the focus of interesting "discussions" on the Ultralightdx Yahoo group list, from my own standpoint I knew that if such an effective, compact antenna could indeed be designed and refined, it would not only solve the problem of my impending lack of exotic summer DX, but also could completely revolutionize the effectiveness of Ultralight radio transoceanic DXing on ocean beaches. Such a compact, high-gain system would finally allow us to set up in extremely tight spaces on high cliff sites overlooking the ocean, providing the ultimate combination of portability and weak-signal DXing effectiveness.

Because the time was short before our summer vacation, I decided to devote maximum resources to designing and refining several FSL test models prior to the July Oregon beach trip (presumably, much to the benefit of the astonished sellers of surplus Russian ferrite on eBay). Trusted Ultralight radio group experimenters Steve Ratzlaff and Kevin Schanilec also participated in this effort, building their own FSL antenna test models (the results of which were shared privately, among our small group). Steve's discovery of the most effective Litz wire (660/46) was particularly helpful in my own experimentation. Within a couple months of relentless A/B testing and tweaking of various FSL antenna designs in my back yard, both an 8" diameter Medium-wave FSL model and 6.5" diameter Longwave model were chosen for the DXpedition. In what seemed to border on science fiction, both of these refined FSL test models had finally reached the point where they clearly outperformed the much larger 3' and 4' sided PVC air-core loops that were used for last year's two Oregon beach summer DXpeditions! Their superiority was based on their lower noise pickup, giving them a crucial signal-to-noise advantage in fringe DX signal reception.

Not only were my summer DXing hopes completely revived, they were given an additional adrenaline boost. The compact size of the new FSL antennas would allow both MW and LW-optimized models to be taken along on this summer's trip to Lincoln City, along with five passengers (and all their travel necessities) in our Toyota Corolla.

Deploying the "Dream Antennas." The FSL antennas essentially provide a new DXing option for Ultralight radio (and other portable) users—the option of having extremely high gain from an

extremely compact antenna. This option comes with the side effects of significant cost and weight, however, making it unlikely that the antenna will be the first choice of every DXer. The cost of so many ferrite rods is the main challenge, making it wise to use surplus Russian ferrite (available on eBay) if possible. A high-quality variable capacitor and optimal 660/46 Litz wire also add to the cost, resulting in a fairly steep price of construction (and an unofficial nickname of the "Financial Sinkhole Loop"). The weight of so many ferrite rods makes it wise to use quality frame materials, as well as many layers of inner padding to protect the relatively fragile ferrite rods. Full details on



the DXpedition FSL model development and testing will be contained in an upcoming experimental article, as well as MP3 recording links documenting its reception advantage over much larger air core loops.

Last-Minute Changes. Experimental testing showed that the performance of an FSL antenna could be enhanced by simply placing the assembly on a 5' high PVC base, allowing the antenna to perform higher up in free space, without any nearby conductors. This made sense, since earlier FSL testing had also shown that a smaller performance boost could be obtained simply by placing the antenna on an elevated PVC frame, and getting it up off of any supporting table. Multiple configurations of variable capacitor mounting were also tried, in an effort to obtain both razor-sharp tuning and the capability to null out nuclear-level pests. After about 10 configurations were tried (and an entire package of plastic tiewraps had been sacrificed), I felt confident that the optimum configuration had been nailed down, and that the compact FSL's were ready for the Oregon beach.

The Bizarre Antennas Meet Even Stranger South Pacific Propagation. As the fully crammed Toyota Corolla made its way south to the ocean I felt very confident that the new FSL's would give a great account of themselves in Lincoln City, if only the propagation would cooperate halfway. As it turned out, that was a pretty accurate description of the entire week's South Pacific propagation!

The DU conditions were up and down like a roller coaster, with every bad day being followed by a good day, and vice versa. This odd pattern continued for the entire week—something that I had never experienced in ten Pacific beach trips. The new FSL antennas were highly effective on the



"good" days, though, allowing a stock Tecsun PL-380 Ultralight to make several breakthrough South Pacific receptions that had never been possible previously with the 3' and 4' sided air-core loops. 666-Noumea in New Caledonia was finally strong enough to confirm parallel International programming with resulting in an all-time new Ultralight DX country from North America (it had never produced a trace for John Bryant or me at Grayland). The 6.5" Longwave FSL model made an even more astonishing DX reception from the South Pacific—the 1,000 watt aeronautical beacon 270-FA in Samoa, at over 5,000 miles from the Oregon beach. The 5 kw New Zealand Maori-language station 603-Waatea had apparently never been heard by anyone at Grayland (even

with top-of-the-line equipment), but it was at a decent level with the Ultralight and 8" FSL in Lincoln City. Finally, the 2 kw New Zealand National Radio relay station on 639 kHz in Alexandra (4YW) is another station which doesn't show up on any Grayland logs, but it was almost certainly the DU English station recorded at a fairly decent level on the PL-380 (with the FSL's help). The entire week's propagation was heavily slanted to favor New Zealand at the expense of Australia, leading to unusual DXing opportunities on several frequencies.

*DXpedition Summary*. As detailed in the companion Longwave DXpedition report (posted at <a href="http://www.mediafire.com/?9snw5mr2f504wzv">http://www.mediafire.com/?9snw5mr2f504wzv</a>), Murphy's Law struck often and hard during this

one week beach trip, resulting in miserable weather, an unplanned Longwave FSL drop test (from 5 feet high) and even a visit from the Lincoln City Police at 0400 local time (during which I attempted to explain my early morning presence in the "Day Use Only" beach park). Despite all the challenges and weird propagation both of the new FSL antennas proved their DXing effectiveness in a major way, confirming that a thrilling new option exists for weak-signal transoceanic reception in extremely small venues. As Ultralight radio enthusiasts with FSL's search out the prime beach parks located on high ocean cliff sites I wish them the very best of transoceanic DXing luck (but perhaps with a little less excitement than what I experienced in other aspects:-)

*DX Loggings*. With the exception of the two Longwave loggings all the following receptions were made with a stock Tecsun PL-380 Ultralight radio with an inductive coupling boost provided by an 8" diameter tuned Ferrite Sleeve Loop antenna composed of 63 Russian surplus 200mm x 10mm ferrite bars wrapped by a single coil of 660/46 Litz wire. Times are in UTC. Sincere thanks is given to Walt Salmaniw, Chuck Hutton, Bruce Portzer, Patrick Martin, Nick Hall-Patch and Guy Atkins for their suggestions on unknown station identities after the past three DXpeditions.

- *Radio Rossii* Yelizovo, Russia The weaker of two Radio Rossii stations heard during this beach trip, its frequency was too low for a gain boost from the Longwave-optimized FSL. Heard on the 7.5" LW loopstick PL-380 with fair signals on most mornings: <a href="http://www.mediafire.com/?3417tfd6k6dx962">http://www.mediafire.com/?3417tfd6k6dx962</a>
- *Radio Rossii* Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, Russia This powerhouse Russian TP often produced legendary signals on the beach, especially when assisted by the Longwave FSL. Beach propagation, sunrise enhancement, and an FSL boost produced the strongest Longwave TP signal ever received (pegging the PL-380's S/N display at 25), as the Russian YL's voice recorded in this MP3 tested the "crunch resistance" of my Ultralight: <a href="http://www.mediafire.com/?2ywc77uujq3mmea">http://www.mediafire.com/?2ywc77uujq3mmea</a>
- *UnID-DU* The classic soft rock station with a classic non-ID format was back for another DXpedition, presumed to be 2PM because of the format and lackluster signal (fitting the general Australian station trend during the entire week at the beach): http://www.mediafire.com/?fy7oop7ocoa9tnh
- **2YA** Wellington, New Zealand (National Radio) The second strongest of four NR stations heard during the week, it typically had good signals with some minor KVI-570 splatter. With frequent easy listening music, it was an indicator of great Kiwi propagation if strong: <a href="http://www.mediafire.com/?s0ebj7gtl357sbg">http://www.mediafire.com/?s0ebj7gtl357sbg</a>
- **2RN** Sydney, Australia Music-oriented signals of mediocre strength were occasionally heard from this station, fitting the general pattern of Aussie station anemia. Parallel to equally underperforming 792-4RN.
- **UnID-DU** The vibrant classic rock signals from last July were long gone this trip, with only an occasional trace at times. This would suggest an Australian origin, in keeping with the weakened trend of other Aussie stations.
- **3WV** Horsham, Australia Last July's booming signal was pitiful this time, as it struggled to get out of the noise on most days. A puzzle was the complete absence of the low-powered Kiwi Rhema stations during favorable NZ propagation.
- *Radio Waatea* Auckland, New Zealand Back with its Maori-language music and speech, signals were generally decent, and all alone on the frequency. Its Polynesian choral music compensated somewhat for the weakness of Fiji stations during the trip: http://www.mediafire.com/?cd34fo9b95ihzy4
- *4QR* Brisbane, Australia Australian "big gun" sounded pretty puny during this trip, typically struggling to get above the noise level. At least it showed up occasionally, though, unlike in the July and August trips last year.
- 639 4YW Alexandra, New Zealand (presumed) The strange Kiwi-slanted propagation apparently produced this unusual logging, as the typically dominant 639-Radio Fiji One was practically missing in action on most days. In this MP3 from 1252 on July 17 a trace of Fiji choral music can be heard in the background with headphones, confirming the separate identity of the YL-voiced dominant station. Although a parallel check with other RN stations was not run at the time, her voice matches that of a YL announcer frequently heard on the 675 and 567 National Radio stations: <a href="http://www.mediafire.com/?opt3b4ighkfz22w">http://www.mediafire.com/?opt3b4ighkfz22w</a> The UnID talkback station from Last July (presumed Coff's Harbour) never produced a trace during this trip, in keeping with the trend of Aussie anemia.
- **NZ-Rhema** Gisborne, New Zealand A real puzzle considering the great Kiwi propagation, this station barely managed a trace with its Christian music. But that was better than its 594 parallels, which didn't show up at all.
- **2YC** Wellington, New Zealand (Southern Star) The strongest Kiwi performer during the DXpedition, this 50 kW "big gun" was an NZ propagation beacon, with occasional great signals.

- Christian-oriented music was typical, as in this MP3 with the usual ID ("Great music, good company.. Southern Star"): <a href="http://www.mediafire.com/?ifdzvuoe7j8qx3h">http://www.mediafire.com/?ifdzvuoe7j8qx3h</a> Another strong recording of Christian music was on July 17: <a href="http://www.mediafire.com/?0jrccy4b59ubobr">http://www.mediafire.com/?0jrccy4b59ubobr</a> Like last July, a weak DU co-channel was heard occasionally.
- Noumea Noumea, New Caledonia Signals from this French-language station were significantly stronger than during last July's trip, finally allowing the confirmation of parallel (France International) programming with 738-Tahiti. Popular French vocal music was common, as in this MP3 from 1257 on July 13: <a href="http://www.mediafire.com/?5m5clydj88rgl4c">http://www.mediafire.com/?5m5clydj88rgl4c</a> The parallel check with 738 was made at 1233 on July 13, matching the French-speaking YL's voice on 666: http://www.mediafire.com/?hp0jd6jpljcaxye (headphones recommended) with the French-YL's voice on 738 (mixing with 2NR, headphones speaking http://www.mediafire.com/?cr54l2p3o3w9sn0 New Caledonia was an all-time new Ultralight DX country, never having produced a trace for John Bryant or me at Grayland.
- 675 **3YA** Christchurch, New Zealand Strongest of the National Radio stations, this Kiwi "big gun" was another helpful propagation beacon, // 567 and 756. Classic popular music and interviews were common, with news and current events: <a href="http://www.mediafire.com/?ggock4ngs0onlg4">http://www.mediafire.com/?ggock4ngs0onlg4</a> Another MP3 was recorded on July 15 with a YL's voice sounding very much like the one on the presumed 639-4YW recording on July 17: <a href="http://www.mediafire.com/?20zp1skmqcdcl3r">http://www.mediafire.com/?20zp1skmqcdcl3r</a>
- 702 **2BL** Sydney, Australia Another Aussie "big gun" struggling to get out of the noise for most of the DXpedition, it rarely managed to show up with any strength.
- 738 *R. Tahiti* Mahina, Tahiti By far the strongest South Pacific performer during the DXpedition, this French language station was a booming regular whenever DU propagation was in. Unlike last July it was usually running roughshod over an anemic 2NR or completely covering the weakened Aussie, as in this typical recording: <a href="http://www.mediafire.com/?bjpdmcq1adrn487">http://www.mediafire.com/?bjpdmcq1adrn487</a> The French International programming helped to confirm the // 666-Noumea identity.
- 2NR Grafton, Australia Either down in the noise or "down for the count" during most of the week, its weakened signals rarely gave Tahiti any competition. An exception was during the 666/738 parallel check on July 13, when its presumed signal was roughly equal with that of the French YL-voice signal from Tahiti: <a href="http://www.mediafire.com/?cr54l2p3o3w9sn0">http://www.mediafire.com/?cr54l2p3o3w9sn0</a>
- 756 *1YA* Auckland, New Zealand Weakest of the NR network stations during the trip (and even weaker than a presumed parallel, 639-4YW). Portland splatter from 750 didn't help: <a href="http://www.mediafire.com/?atmfv0464lt96dv">http://www.mediafire.com/?atmfv0464lt96dv</a>
- 765 *UnID-DU* The mystery pop music station was back at a slightly reduced level this year (possible Australian origin?): <a href="http://www.mediafire.com/?cy6zk1snxp2wvz8">http://www.mediafire.com/?cy6zk1snxp2wvz8</a> Lots of music with little speech, making it tough to check the language.
- 774 3LO Melbourne, Australia Another "big gun" Aussie reduced to mediocrity by Kiwislanted propagation. Rarely heard at all during the entire week.
- 792 *4RN* Brisbane, Australia Normally vibrant music-oriented station rarely produced a trace during the entire DXpedition.
- 891 *5AN* Adelaide, Australia The only "big gun" Aussie to really play the part this trip. Presumably because of slightly different propagation from southern Australia, it generally avoided the "black hole" seeming to swallow the signals from eastern Australia: <a href="http://www.mediafire.com/?9bxwm3409u4fden">http://www.mediafire.com/?9bxwm3409u4fden</a>
- 1017 *A3Z* Nuku'alofa, Tonga Much weaker than last August, it managed to produce an anemic signal occasionally: <a href="http://www.mediafire.com/?o3fo7p5tl5op9n7">http://www.mediafire.com/?o3fo7p5tl5op9n7</a>
- 1035 **2ZB** Wellington, New Zealand "Newstalk Zed-B" came through with weak signals occasionally, but definitely wasn't fighting off domestic splatter
- 1116 *4BC* Brisbane, Australia Another underperforming Aussie usually losing the battle with domestic splatter.

#### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

8" Medium Wave DXpedition FSL Demonstration Video (courtesy of Gut Atkins)

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v= WUUlMgK0qI

July 2011 Oregon Beach Longwave DXpedition Report <a href="http://www.mediafire.com/?9snw5mr2f504wzv">http://www.mediafire.com/?9snw5mr2f504wzv</a>

July 2010 Oregon Beach Ultralight DXpedition Report

http://www.mediafire.com/?we4r6gh50gaa4i6

August 2010 Lincoln City Ultralight DXpedition Report <a href="http://www.mediafire.com/?9tjd0pqpa4ld2f0">http://www.mediafire.com/?9tjd0pqpa4ld2f0</a>

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