



DX NEWS

The magazine of the
National Radio Club

— SINCE 1933 —

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Inside ...

2 .. AM Switch

3 .. DDXD-W

4 .. DDXD-E

9 .. IDXD

10 .. Further Explaining

Formats

12 .. Answerman

14 .. GYDXA: 1400

17 .. FCC Rules

17 .. Fairness Doctrine

18 .. Musings

23 .. How to Subscribe

and Renew

From the editor ...

This edition is a little more respectable than last week's ... membership support of the columns is growing, again, and for that the editors (not to mention the readers) thank you who have contributed to this issue.

A reminder to all editors and article contributors: remember to keep all copy between seven and three-quarters and eight inches wide ... use only fresh, dark ribbons ... and if you're using 14-inch paper, stay within a 13-inch area and leave one and one-half inch of white space at the top. If you'd like to change the copy in your standing column head, please let me know.

DX Audio Service member Mike Dukin, of Ladysmith, WI called KTNN-660 recently and talked with an announcer who said that KTNN is indeed having trouble with their towers and had notified the FCC. So DX'ers out of the range of WFAN still have a chance to bag this station, until the problem is repaired.

Several members interested in the revival of the NRC Ham Net have written lately ... and I'd suggest that Russ Edmunds, Jerry Starr, Dick Truax, and Mike Knitter get together on who would be in charge of reviving the net. Other members should write to Jerry or Russ (see their columns for addresses) and express their interest. Jerry mentioned that he talked with an Ontario ham who was an active BCB DX'er but who had never heard of the NRC! C'mon, hams, surely you can talk about more than equipment in your shacks!

Charles Graham, Grass Valley, CA wrote to say that his venture into the world of manufacturing crystal receivers is now on hold due to lack of available parts. I'm sure he, Fred Vobbe, Paul Kowalski, and others could swap many horror

From Dario Monferini's *Play-DX*: Spanish DX'er José Antonio Agosti was killed last November in a car crash near Madrid, Spain.

stories about the lack of reliable parts sources ...

Another first ... NRC Products now available for payment by credit card! Publisher Mike Knitter announces that any NRC products or *DX News* subscriptions may be ordered by phone or mail and charged to a VISA® or MasterCard® account number. You may call (608) 423-4159 between 7-11pm ELT seven days a week (no collect calls, and no calls returned) and possibly at other times, if someone is at home. Before calling, have your order, account number and type of card, expiration date, and name exactly as on card ready to give to Mike or Sue. For Wisconsin residents, 5% sales tax and appropriate county tax must be added. More details will be forthcoming.

It is raining, snowing, and sleeting as I type this on a dreary Sunday afternoon ... there ARE things more fun to do indoors, at times ... DX?

DX Time Machine

From the pages of *DX News*

Twenty-five years ago ... from the February 15, 1964 issue: Henry J. Wilkinson's "Supremacy Ratings" column listed the following top twenty DX'ers as to the number of countries logged: 1. Hank Tyndall (150); 2. Ken Mackey (122); 3. Arthur Cushen (104); 4. K. Robinson (93); 5. C. M. Stanbury (90); 6. Kermit Geary (81); 7. Hank Holbrook (78); 8. Ben Dangerfield (71); 9. B. Botzum (67); 10. Stan Morss (64); 11. S. Johnson (63); 12. Hilding Gustafson (55); 13. D. Pope (52); 14. Ray Moore (51); 15. Norm Maguire (who later became the column's editor) (49); 16. H. J. Wilkinson (48); 17. D. Roys (47); 18. Roy Millar (45); 19. Gene Allen (43); 20. Dave Gleason (43) ... At the bottom of the last page: "Flash - The NRCI is in no way connected with the NRC in Buffalo, NY."

Ten years ago ... from the February 19, 1979 issue: Hank Wilkinson, Santa Rosa, CA reported that January was good for DU DX, as he managed to log and report five new Aussies and four new Zedders. He continued: "...I feel that there are approximately 40 to 50 Down Under and Pacific Ocean Island stations on frequencies that could be heard by West Coast DX'ers this coming Spring in a concentrated effort between 0930 and 1400 GMT."

THE WORLD'S OLDEST AND LARGEST ALL MEDIUM-WAVE DX CLUB

AM Switch

Jerry Starrc/o WHOT Radio
4040 Simon Road
Youngstown, OH 44512-1320**Status changes in AM stations, supplied by the FCC and NRC members**CALL LETTER CHANGES

None! (As noted two issues ago, the FCC had a short work week due to government holidays and they are behind on call letter changes, they expect to get caught up in the next few weeks. Other FCC info has been equally sparse as you will notice below.)

APPLICATIONS / GRANTS FOR NEW STATIONS

None

APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES

720 WGCR NC Brevard: change city of license to Pisgah Forest, NC, increase power to 10000 watts
1140 KLTK MO Southwest City: reduce power to 210 watts (increase tower height to accomodate FM antenna)
1290 WGLI NY Babylon: reduce powers to 265/265 watts
1480 KMEZ TX Dallas: night power to 1900 watts
1540 KSVZ TX Fort Worth: city of license to University Park, TX, night power to 5000 watts

GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES

940 KSWM MO Republic: relocate XR
960 KLTF MN Little Falls: relocate XR

OTHERNESS

550 WICE RI Pawtucket: application for 5000/3400 U4 DISMISSED
680 WJYL KY Newburg: target date for new station is April 1989
850 WUTK TN Knoxville: facility is back on the air with this call following WIVK's move to 990 kHz
1230 KOZA TX Odessa: silent station is back ON THE AIR with Spanish
1380 KCKO WA Spokane: FCC has ordered station to show cause why their license should not be revoked. Their permission to be SILENT ran out 8-15-85! The FCC recently visited the station and found the towers and XR building were GONE!
1390 WFBL NY Syracuse: silent station is back ON THE AIR testing by simulcasting WKFM 104.7 (Fulton, NY) but is expected to have MOYL format when it "officially" returns
1440 WSLE GA Bremen: silent station is back ON THE AIR
WPRZ KY Paris: FCC has ordered station to show cause why their license should not be revoked. Licensee never requested permission or notified the FCC that they were SILENT. Station has been off the air since November 1987.
1480 WCIN OH Cincinnati: application for 1000/250 U1 is DISMISSED
1490 KTOP KS Topeka: despite prior reports, the move to 1250 kHz (former WREN facilities) is still on, expected to be in the spring, would have been sooner but several cases of vandalism at the unattended WREN Grantville site has caused some delays, this info from station's manager.

THANKS to members Howard Kemp, Paul Swearingen, Bill Alisaukus and Greg Coniglio for their contributions in this issue!

VACATION!!!! There will be NO AM SWITCH for the next one or possibly two issues as we will be vacationing in warm, sunny (hopefully) Florida for the NASCAR Daytona 500 and other races. We will attempt to do some monitoring on the trip to see what's going on with some of the outstanding CPs. These working vacations are great when the month is February and the venue is FL!

COMMENTS Members have asked why the recent rash of AM stations requesting to REDUCE powers. For many years stations all wanted to increase power if possible. For the most part it boils down to the sad state of AM radio and the fact that AM facilities are no longer held in as high esteem as they were once were by licensees. Usually the station wants to raise the height of their tower to install or improve their FM antenna location. Increasing antenna height normally requires a reduction in power to keep the AM's coverage area the same. Other times it's strictly a cost reduction measure for a station to eliminate or reduce in size a large and expensive-to-maintain directional antenna system. In this case you might see a station asking to reduce power and change to non-directional or less directional radiation. One or two towers are cheaper to maintain than five or six or more. The power reduction must be such that no more power is radiated toward protected stations than was the case with the directional pattern. With AM facilities no longer as valuable as they once were, some owners are seeking these drastic measures to preserve the bottom line. A few stations have actually applied to drop their night operations altogether to ease the financial burden of maintaining a complicated night directional system. But saddest of all are the few stations that have recently gone off the air rather than incur the expense of moving when their transmitter and antenna land has become more valuable than the station's license and business. I personally know of an AM station that the owners have had for sale in the range of a million dollars for more than several years without any takers. Their large plot of land where the towers are located was once in the country but commercial and residential growth has engulfed it in recent years. A few months ago they were offered close to FIVE million dollars for the LAND, not the license! If this was your station and it continued to operate in the red, what would you do? In this particular case no change has taken place yet but if this station went silent next week and tore down the towers I wouldn't be at all surprised. Saddened but not surprised. One point that might make the situation even more clear: This company does NOT have an FM facility to fall back on. Nuff said?

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

Domestic DX Digest - West

Nancy Hardy
2301 Pacific Avenue
Aberdeen, WA 98520

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

MIDDAY TO MIDNIGHT

540 KNMX NM LAS VEGAS - 1/25 1919 relig. messages in Spanish, followed by EE/SS s/off anct. Good signal. (ØW-CO)
1040 KKRE CO MONUMENT - 1/25 1859 s/off by man. (ØW-CO)
1470 KSRK CO ESTES PARK - 1/25 1900 s/off by man, 1000 watts. (ØW-CO)

MIDNIGHT TO MIDDAY

960 KGKL TX SAN ANGELO - 1/30 0106 s/off. Good with KYGO-950 slop. (ØW)
1260 KVSP NM SANTA FE - 1/30 0159 s/off fair over QRM. (ØW-CO)
1310 KAAM TX DALLAS - 1/30 0300 ID "K-Double AM, Dallas-Ft. Worth," then Satellite Network News. 0303 into mellow pop oldies from 50's & 60's. Fair with QRM nulled. (ØW-CO)
1390 KDZR CO DENVER - 1/25 0200 s/off anct. following Business Radio Network programs. (ØW-CO)
1400 KRLN CO CANON CITY - 1/29 0157 s/off anct. (ØW-CO)
1530 KXTD OK WAGONER - 1/27 0705 s/on anct. "The station you've been waiting for." Good signal. (ØW-CO)
1560 KWCO OK CHICKASHA - 1/27 0701 s/on by man. (ØW-CO)

REPORTER

ØW-CO/John Wilkins, Wheat Ridge, CO/R-1000, R-390A, 2½-foot loop

Domestic DX Digest - East

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

William Hale

2160 Farm to Market Road
Johnson City, NY 13790

MEDIUM WAVE ramblings

■ Who said, "No one reads this column"? **Wendell Ford** picked up on an item in Issue 10, Middy to Midnight, 1300 WAOK, Atlanta. Of course, everybody knows WAOK is on 1380! I type what is sent in, folks. Sometimes I catch typos, sometimes I don't. This obviously I missed. Either the reporter heard something he thought was "WAOK" on 1300 and reported it as that. OR, I got the whole thing messed up. Anyway, I'll try to keep a closer watch on that stuff ...if you'll do the same.

■ **Morris Sorensen** writes to say he and several other ODXA members have been hearing daytimers, which have no PSSA, on long past LSS. Example: WSEZ-1580. Have a lot of changes been made recently? he asks. Well, I haven't seen anything 'official' in AM Switch about that. But if you mean these stations have been heard on late just recently, most sign-off times were moved forward by 15 or 30 minutes in January. So it may have been dark where you were, but not in the, say, Southern or Central (latitude-wise) parts of the U.S. Other than that, I have no idea why these guys have been on later. Possibly, all on-duty operators were infected by the 'stupidity' bug. Who else has been hearing this, and do you have any idea why? All logical answers will be printed here.

■ With the Alaskan Cold Front sweeping all of North America, DX conditions should be improving. Report your loggings today!

■ Fun and games on 1050 in the Big Apple. See SPECIAL, below.

SPECIAL

- 550 K TSA TX SAN ANTONIO - 1/19 0019 with end of Doris Day song, wx, into Andy Williams on AM \$, 5-50; 1st time heard, in SS null; no Larry King; change of format to BBD (WPF-IN2) [Doris Day & Andy Williams = Big Band?-Ed.]
- 620 W JDX MS JACKSON - 1/18 0234-0301+ fair+very poor with Larry King (add this to your log)+MBS Nx; 1st-timer anywhere in heavy Cuban QRM (WPF-IN2)
- 630 KFLT AZ TUCSON - 1/14 0358 with nx, promo: *This has been a KFLT public service anct, wx; 0400 ID: This is KFLT, Tucson; when last hrd (11/27/88), CL were KFXK; operator error? or returned to old KFLT CL? (JB-TX) [Frank Merrill also hrd KFLT (Issue 17). My log sez KFXK. What say you, BKF? And a report on the DX Audio Service sez these guys were (and maybe still are) having antenna problems. Now's your chance to log 'em-Ed.]*
- 890 WITZ IN JASPER - 1/19 1233 FYI they simulcast 104.7 FM (WPF-IN1)
- 1050 WEVD NY NEW YORK - 2/1 1615 noted with NOS format; also carries ethnic & sports; slogan: *Greater 10-50*, ex: 97.9 FM; stn began on AM in 1927, but has been FM-only since 1981; address: 770 Broadway, ZIP 10003; WUKQ, meanwhile, is now on 97.9 as WSKQ-FM; switchover apparently took place this day @ noon, as scheduled (BH-NJ)
- 1170 KSTI IA DAVENPORT - **THIS is the station I reported on 1/4 with AOR; it had dropped its OLD format the preceding midnight to begin simul with WXLN 98.9 (97X) (see Issue 17); add this to your logs; [see 1580-Ed.] (RD-IA3)**
- 1200 WAYD AL OZARK - as per letter from AGM Tom O'Brien, station will be **changing format & CLs in a few weeks**; watch for this one! (RJT-NC)
- 1320 CJSO PQ SOREL - **has been back on since 9/27/88**, after being off from 5/22/88 according to CIDX & other sources (MS-ON)
- 1330 KSJN MN MINNEAPOLIS - **noted giving CLs KNSR**, so may be simulcasting (RD-IA)
- 1370 WGCL IN BLOOMINGTON - 1/18 1128 is now Oldies Cool 1370; ex: WGTC & C&W; is \$, but don't know which one Chrysler caradio deciphers (WPF-IN2) [Methinks C-Quan-Ed.]
- 1430 WNJR NJ NEWARK - 2/1 1800 noted with these CLs, contrary to what was reported in DDXD-E, Issue 17; but stay tuned...stn is heavily in debt and may be shut down or sold soon (BH-NJ)
- 1580 KTSS IA DAVENPORT - **THIS one is still silent**, noted while passing thru city on New Year's Day; disregard what is listed in Issue 17; [see 1170-Ed.] (RD-IA2)
- 1590 WWCC PA HONESDALE - 1/31 1100 with He're Hayne County's Country; also SNN & C&W mx from the satellite; new CLs, ex: WDNH (JN-NY)

- 1600 KCRG IA CEDAR RAPIDS - per conversation with former "E Carl Mann, this guy still has a MM SP from 0100-0600; check of 1:00 on MM 1/30 confirmed this (RD-IA)

UNIDs AND UNIDs IDd

- 800 UNID ?? - 1/11 0229-0233 with end of MBS Nx, then Larry King; looped NW+SE; who? in SS null; CKLW off! (WPF-IN1)
- 810 UNID ?? - 1/18 1101-1136 with MORH/WVEZ-790; very hard to copy in WKZI-800 splash; probably WDDD (WPF-IN2)
- 850 UNID ?? - 1/11 0234-0347+ testing with full scale TT, OC & audio from a satellite Oldies service/WEMP-1250, possibly WKIX; ads, also (that's a no no), in KOA/WKBE null (WPF-IN1)
- 940 UNID ?? - 1/13 0330 with SS & ID, or at least slogan: La Super Q Radio; Mexico only one on frequency; if it was XEQ...a 1st-timer (WPF-IN1)
- 1010 UNID ?? - 1/18 0312 somebody here with Fred Sanders and IRN; in WINS null (WPF-IN2)
- 1590 UNID ?? - 1/23 0138 while listening in null of WVNA test, heard Weekends are special and so is the music of AM 1590 KNAC or KMAC; I don't see either in the log on 1590; then saying weekend and it being well into Monday morning sez they're in MT zone at least, or DJ forgot to take Weekend Buffer out (WPF-IN1)

DX/EQUIPMENT TESTS

- 720 WGN IL CHICAGO - 1/15 0338-0600 noted with TT & OC @ 0410, This is WGN, Chicago, 7-20 kHz on the AM dial performing maintenance test ...our regular schedule will resume @ 5 AM; noted completely off @ 0514; \$\$\$!@** RATS, nothing else noted; sign-on @ 0800 & back on RE (WPF-IN1)
- 800 CKLW ON WINDSOR - 1/11 0240 noted off; XEROK very strong in absence and 1st-timer; CKLW noted back on @ 0309 (WPF-IN1)
- 1080 WKAC AL ATHENS - 1/16 DX test not heard; all week everything's been "Auroraed out"; KRLD/WDJX/WTIC noted, all very weak (WPF-IN1)
- 1590 WVNA AL TUSCUMBIA - 1/23 0129 sign-on and 0158 sign-off for DX Test; good signal (RK-IL) [Are you reporting in ELT? Test was supposed to be from 0229-0258 ELT-Ed.]
- WVNA AL TUSCUMBIA - 1/23 0133-0151 heard L&C; WAKR seemed to be off; just a token reception, as is just barely heard @ night with Larry King (WPF-IN1) [Ditto comment from above-Ed.]
- WVNA AL TUSCUMBIA - 1/23 0233-0259 very good, atop for about the first 8 minutes, with full address, CIDs & jazz mx; didn't hear any mention of the NRC, however (RD-IA)
- WVNA AL TUSCUMBIA - 1/23 not heard; WJRO too strong here, even with a loop it's hard to null (HH-MD)

TIS & OTHER

- 1610 KID-787 PA CRESSON - NPS-Allegheny Portage RR Nat'l Historic Site-Johnstown Flood Nat'l Memorial; this is actual location (PA, not VA as previously reported); QSL letter with pamphlets on RR & Flood Memorial; v/s is Peter K. Nigh, Superintendent; XR is ISS TR 20 (10 watts), antenna is Morad Electronics Corp SF180; addr: P.O. Box 247, Cresson, PA 16830 (HH-MD) [This is follow-up to report in Issue 16-Ed.]

PIRATE ACTIVITY

- 1620 WJDI NY - 1/1 0046-0056 sign off with This is a test broadcast of Radio Station WJDI, the Voice of New York State, 1620, with a power output of 1000 clear watts, WJDI 1620; ROK songs hrd; sign-off said: We welcome you to listen to us again, another time, another day→SSB (WW-MA)
- WJDI NY - 1/15 0108-0111 sign-off; same as on 1/1 except this time said Central New York State, & 1000 clear watts with north-south antenna pattern; sign-off with SSB, then hi-lo tones; clear, strong signal, but abrupt fade-in/out (WW-MA)

MIDNIGHT TO MIDDAY

- 560 WIND IL CHICAGO - 1/18 0602 XLNT with sign-on after occasional MM SP (RK-IL)
- 780 WMC TN MEMPHIS - 1/11 0228 with C&W mx on Interstate 79, Memphis' first radio station; so contrary to nx articles, is not going to replace WHBQ's nx/tlk format (WPF-IN1)

850 WALT IL CRYSTAL LAKE - 1/21 0815 good with sign-on (RK-IL)
 KFUD MO CLAYTON - 1/17 0815 fair with sign-on (RK-IL)
 800 WGOK AL MOBILE - 1/26 0010-0018 good, with UC GOS mx (RJT-NC)
 840 CEM PA MONTREAL - 1/16 0112 good with sign-off, National Anthem (RK-IL)
 860 KOOL AZ PHOENIX - 1/23 0441-0457 fair with satellite OLD and Kool Gold 9-60 IDs; #5 from the state where I was born with a tuner in my hand, hi (RD-IA)
 WJ12 GA ALBANY - 1/11 0321-0403+ with MOR & some OLD; format switch?; On Stereo One, don't know if they're referring to 98.3 simulcast, or AM 8 (WPF-IN1)
 890 WYAT LA NEW ORLEANS - 1/18 0230 with OLD & wx (hi 65' today); 1st-timer here...alone (WPF-IN2)
 1010 KHLT AK LITTLE ROCK - 1/19 0051 Midnight @ the Oasis on K-Lite 94 heard, so is not all-sports as previously reported, but still with Wisconsin report (the PD is UW grad, hi?-Ed.), so must place heavy emphasis on it in afternoon (WPF-IN2)
 1020 WPEU IL PEUKIA - 1/17 0745 fair with sign-on (RK-IL)
 1050 WWIC AL SCOTTSBORO - 1/28 0023 with ID:Keep it right here for a better choice of country, 1050 WWIC; fair, in & out with WCHS/XEG; AL #36 (RD-NC)
 WLIP WI KENOSHA - 1/16 good @ 0103 sign-off & 0600 sign-on (RK-IL) (Lucybe contest credit here, eh?-bd.)
 1140 WIXC AL HAZEL GREEN - 1/21 0700 fair with sign-on (RK-IL)
 WSAU MS SENAIUBIA - 1/21 0701 poor with sign-on (RK-IL)
 KPWB MD PLEDMONT - 1/21 0701 fair with sign-on (RK-IL)
 1160 WJJD IL CHICAGO - 1/5 0001 noted with Satellite Wx & ID:Music of the Stars Stn, WJJD; very severe QRM; hard to hear this now (WW-MA)
 1240 WBAB NY FREEPORT - 1/9 0515-0800 with all-news, ads, wx, lottery results; in/out thru jumble (HH-MD1)
 1360 KRYS TX CORPUS CHRISTI - 1/23 0131-0135 good during KSCJ SP with K-99 & The pride of South Texas slogans+mx by George Strait & Waylon Jennings (RD-IA)
 1470 CHOW ON WELLAND - 2/4 0515+ with This is 1470, CHOW by female, PSA, Buick ad, singing CHOW+Johnny Cash tune on network C&W show; fair: (WRH-NY)
 1610 WSSH MA BOSTON - 2/4 0540+ in and out, over/under CJRS with OLD; good ID @ 0800, but swore I heard W??K ment; do they have an Fher? or vice-versa?; 1st-timer (WRH-NY)
 CJRS PA SHEKBRooke - 2/4 0558+ poor, fadey, mostly under WSSH with annor (maybe nx?) in FF; a couple of CJRS ments (WRH-NY)
 1630 WVFC PA MC CONNELLSBURG - 1/16 0040 poor under WCKY with sign-on-for F/C (RK-IL)
 1640 CHIN ON TORONTO - 1/15 0130-0230 poor most of the time with severe QRM from WPTK, but still fair signal; Reggae mx noted with black DJ?; took phone calls; I thought this was a multi-language stn? (WW-MA)
 1590 WARX MS JACKSON - 1/13 0320-0513+ in most of the morning, simul with WSTZ-FM 106.7, with CD of the day; sounded like jazz, then @ 0400+Aerosmith mx, but locally not Z-Rock off the bird; hasn't been heard in a l-o-ong time (WPF-IN1)
 1600 WXXO FL WINTER GARDEN - 1/24 0008-0130 good with GOS mx; IDs as:The Gospel Explosion WXXO (RJT-NC)
 WLNG NY SAG HARBOR - 1/15 0604-0610 with local mx; soon lost under WWRL & jumble on channel; atop for a brief period (HH-MD2)
 WPDC PA ELIZABETHTOWN - 1/26 0437 with mx like A Hard Day's Night, frequent IDs; atop channel from time to time (HH-MD1)
 WWBR TN HARRIMAN - 1/24 0100 finally IDd after monitoring for 8 days!; SNX N @ :00+SNH Stardust format, I think!WBEE-1580 (RJT-NC)
 KSSA TX PLANO - 1/23 0041-0059 atop with Ranchera mx; talk all SS except for TCs; ID @ 0100:KSSA, Plano-Dallas (RD-IA)

MIDDAY TO MIDNIGHT

590 WKLL IL WOOD RIVER - 1/19 1217 with Oldies over WVLK; 1st-timer here (WPF-IN2)
 660 WBLX AL FAIRHOPE - 1/23 1745 very good over WFAN with rap mx; The McDonald's Check-in line & many AM 660 WBLX mentions; TDH #600 (RJT-NC)
 690 WITX LA NEW ORLEANS - 1/27 1817-1820 steady with ads on Talk-690; 1st-timer here (WPF-MI)
 760 KAMA TX EL PASO - 1/23 2011-2015 very good in WSB null with ads for car dealership & Planned Parenthood; SS/EE promo for KAMA contest (You could be \$1000 richer)+ranchera mx & ID:Kay-ah-emay-ah; this gets out good for 1 Kw (RD-IA)

770 WCGW KY NICHOLASVILLE - 1/18 1057-1100 with C&W/REL mx; 1st-timer anywhere; WEW fighting it out also; used to be the only heard in the day (WPF-IN2)
 KKOB NM ALBUQUERQUE - 1/27 1325-1330 good with KOB Radar Wx; Sundown by Gordon Lightfoot+ID:We're the 50,000 watt voice of the Great Southwest, 77 KOB, Albuquerque+TC & nx; a mind-boggling midday catch @ approx 900 miles (RD-IA)
 WYRV VA CEDAR BLUFF - 1/11 1727-1730 with Hank Williams, Jr song+sign-off:5 Kw, etc on The Heart of the Country+SSB; 1st-timer, in WBBM splash, but no 770 QRM (WPF-IN1)
 810 KCHO MO KANSAS CITY - 1/15 1830 good with enntct:I'm Joe Vaughn, KCNO News+ads for Buick & Chunky Soups Sweepstakes (MS-ON)
 820 WIQT NY HORSEHEADS - 12/31 2315 poor in jumble of stations with ment of Horseheads & WIQT+ROK song Say You Will (WW-MA)
 830 KBOA MO KENNETT - 1/18 1103 end of AP Nx, local wx, 52' now; 1st time here, probably a day regular now with power increase; in heavy WSWI-B20 splash (WPF-IN2)
 840 KWDF LA BALL - 1/28 1815-1829 good with GOS mx+ID, TC, & local ad for Alexandria; sign-off @ 1829; no trace of WHAS (RD-IA)
 860 WDMG GA DOUGLAS - 1/23 2214-2226 fair with mx by Phil Collins, Michael McDonald & Patti La Belle & Air Supply+AM-FM ID & promo for The official WDMG Concert Calendar; GA #3 (RD-IA)
 810 CKLY ON LINDSEY - 12/31 2359 fair signal with ID:9-10 on your radio dial, this is CKLY, Lindsey; noted SS stn in background (WW-MA)
 820 KWEU NM ALEXANDRIA - 1/18 2152 up briefly with Your favorite mx right here on KWEU+ROK, then fade-out; good signal with no KRIA talk pgm splatter/KAKN fades (JE-IX)
 880 WITY IL DANVILLE - 1/28 2034 weak under KMBZ with Illinois @ Indiana BKBHWS; ID during network pause (RD-IA)
 890T WANT VA RICHMOND - 1/24 1751 good with nx ment here in Virginia, here in the Commonwealth & here in Richmond; legal ID not heard as it faded before 1800 (MS-ON)
 1000 CFLP PQ RIMOUSKI - 1/5 1718 poor & fadey with FF talk; not easy to hear (WW-MA)
 1010 KDJW TX AMARILLO - 1/23 2240 fair with West Texas State vs Texas A & I BKB; 1st time heard in several years (RD-IA)
 1030 WXSS TN MEMPHIS - 1/9 1943 poor, but steady with UC mx & DJ JT on WXSS; not often heard; in WBZ null (WPF-IN1)
 1050 WTPO GA CONYERS - 1/25 2300-2400 with CBN Radio Nx @ :00+inspirational mx; IDs as:This is Temple 1050, WTPO, Conyers; very good over WCHS/XEG; 1st time heard after LSS (RJT-NC)
 1130 WBZL IN BRAZIL - 1/18 1119 with satellite-fad C&WWKCM 1160 (WPF-IN2)
 1310 KGMT NE FAIRBURY - 1/24 1255-1259 fair under KDLS with Put a Little Love In Your Heart by Annie Lennox & Al Green; ment of Southeast Nebraska & Northeast Kansas+ID & PH [?-please define PH-Ed.]; this now makes KVDB-1090 as my closest unheard (RD-IA)
 WJLK NJ ASBURY PARK - 1/2 1834 fair for a few minutes with severe QRM from WORC; ROK Oldies mx & ID:All oldies all the time time-WJLK; soon gone (WW-MA)
 WIBA WI MADISON - 1/26 2140 good with Wisconsin @ Iowa BKB, net ID:This is Badger BKB (RD-IA)
 CHGB PA LA POCATIERE - 1/30 2124-2133 fair in FF with phone-in show about hockey; gave phone numbers mentg La Pocatiere & Trois Pistoles, local ads (MS-UN)
 1330 WHUI OH CAMPBELL - 1/27 1954 good with ROK mx simulcasting with FM & IDing as Hot-101 (MS-ON)
 1340 WCVI PA CONNELLSVILLE - 1/23 1900 fair with ID:The Music Leader-WCVI, Connelville; nx spa, then into state/local nx (MS-ON)
 1360 KFFA AR HELENA - 1/22 2121-2125 good in KSCJ null with mx by Twight Yosem (YEE-HAA!...sorry, just had to do that)+promo for Radio Bingo each Thursday night from 8 to 10 on KFFA & KCRI-FM (RD-IA)
 1370 WGCL IN BLOOMINGTON - 1/23 2314 atop briefly with Indiana @ Michigan BKB; 1st time heard since last March (RD-IA)
 KDTH IA DUBUQUE - 1/26 2124 fair with Wisconsin @ Iowa BKB+WHO with pbp by Jim Zabel (RD-IA)
 1380 WYNK LA BATON ROUGE - 1/12 1824-1827 ad for Capital City Glass Co, then traffic, wx+early sign-off; licensed to WYNK, Inc, microwave link WBB-315, 101.5 FM invite, etc & SSB; not a 1st-timer, but they were alone on frequency (WPF-IN1)
 WNLA MS INDIANOLA - 1/22 2143 fair with ID:In 25 years, we've grown with you...WNLA+mx by The Byrds; night power? (RD-IA) [Log sez 49 watts-Ed.]
 1390 KDZR CO DENVER - 1/23 1830 fair with current temps from Denver, Boulder, & Colorado Springs+TC:It's 4:30 @ KDZR+AP Nx; Denver #8 (RD-IA)

1410 WCFY IN LAFAYETTE - 1/19 1234 end of REL pgm & disclaimer for views expressed on same, but probably the first time I've heard them say that! (WPF-IN1)

1420 WINI IL MURPHYSBORO - 1/28 2068 fair with BKB ID:You're listening to Illini BKB, a presentation of Raycom Sports+ad for Murphysboro business (RD-IA)

WTCR WV KENOVA - 1/24 1851 fair with ABC Nx item, ads for Webster Steer of Ashland & a farm & garden center; WTCR Forecast, ID as:WTCR, the Tri-(fade, not sure if they said state or city) news & information leader (MS-ON)

1440 KEWI KS TOPEKA - 1/27 2119 good with Shawnee Heights vs Washburn Rural HS BKB; ad for A.C. Sportsman's in Topeka (RD-IA)

KDNT TX DENTON - 1/12 1818 only one on frequency with local nx, UPI world nx read by local snnrc; KDNT Newswatch; 1st-timer! on very Auroral night (WPF-IN1)

1480 KKCS CO COLORADO SPRINGS - 1/28 2061-2154 good with Queen of Hearts by Juice Newton+TC, ment of 102 FM & wx around Colorado (RD-IA)

1490 WDAN IL DANVILLE - 1/12 1809-1813 with state nx about who would be minority whip in legislature; in WPNA/WNDU null; 1st time at this QTH (WPF-IN1)

WABJ MI ADRIAN - 1/28 2108 fair with WABJ Accu-Weather, promo for WABJ Sponsor wheel contest with prizes starting at \$14.90 (MS-ON)

1520 KOMA OK OKLAHOMA CITY - 1/10 1851 noted with end of Beatie song on Oklahoma's Oldies Station & All request drive at 5; read about this format change from BBD in DXN, but 1st time to actually receive it (WPF-IN1)

KYND TX CYPRESS - 1/15 1745 1st time heard since sign-on reported in Vol 55, Issue 30 AMS; C&W mx & Hope you've had a good time on KYND in Cypress; in/out with KRJH before KOMA fade-in (JB-IX)

1540 WHCB IN MARTINSVILLE - 1/19 1238 end of Swap Shop+C&W on \$ 102 WCBK; no mention of AM CLs, so is simulcasting (WPF-IN2)

WQCC NC CHARLOTTE - 1/18 1648 good briefly with traffic report (RK-IL)

1570 WTAY IL ROBINSON - 1/19 1240 another simulcaster, this one with 101.7 (WPF-IN1)

1580 WPHO MS PASCAGOULA - 1/2 1755-1819 with ads, Miss nx, C&W mx; suddenly dropped out @ 1819 (HH-MD1)

REPORTERS:

JB-TX Jia Basha//San Antonio, TX//R-71-A + 4' box loop

JN-NY Jay Novello//Broome Community College Parking Lot//Caradio

Ww-MA William Wylie//Franklin, MA//Realistic Modulaire 2200

RJT-NC Robert Tiers//Hendersonville, NC//

RK-IL Robert Kraemer//Chicago, IL//R-1000, HQ-129X + RW Loop, Kowalski Loop

WPF-IN1 Wendell Ford//Westville, IN//ICF-2010

WPF-IN2 Wendell Ford//Linton, IN//ICF-2010

WPF-HI Wendell Ford//Stevensville, MI//ICF-2010

HH-MD1 Hank Holbrook//Dunkirk, MD//SP-800 JX-14 + Colgrove Loop

HH-MD2 Hank Holbrook//Dunkirk, MD//SP-800 JX-14 + 150' LW

RD-IA Rick Dau//Oakland, IA//R-1000 + RW Loop

RD-IA1 Rick Dau//on I-74 in Davenport, IA//Ford Caradio

RD-IA2 Rick Dau//on I-80 near Bettendorf, IA//Ford Caradio

MS-ON Morris Soransen//Port Carling, ON//HQ-150 + SH-2 or barefoot Superadio

BH-NJ Bob Harrison//Union, NJ//Caradio

WRH-NY Bill Hale//Johnson City, NY//RF-2800B + LW

SOME ABBREVIATIONS & SPECIAL SYMBOLS USED IN DDIX-E

TT:test tones OC:open carrier TC:time check RS:regular schedule SP:silent period QRM:interference QTH:location SID:singing ID CID:code ID MM:Monday morning Jx:jingle lc:local lgl:legal mx:music nx:news wx:weather sp:sports HS:high school FB:football BB:baseball HKY:hockey BKB:basketball =:equal with or equal to :OO: on the hour ||:parallel with +:to or into #: stereo SS:Spanish FF:French EE:English POL:political GOS:gospel REL: religion or religious AC:adult contemporary BBD:big band OLD:oldies ROK: rock 'n' roll CHR:contemporary hit radio ContChr:contemporary Christian C&W: country & western EZL:easy listening UC:urban contemporary tkt:talk LK: Larry King BW:Bruce Williams PH:Paul Harvey AP:Associated Press Radio UPI: United Press International MBS:Mutual Broadcasting System USRN:United Stns Radio Net NPR: National Public Radio MRN:Motor Racing Net MCRN:Music Country Radio Net IRN:Interstate Radio Net LSR:local sunrise SRS:sunrise skip LSS: local sunset SSS:sunset skip SSB:Star Spangled Banner

73, Bill

International DX Digest

Chuck Hutton

1237 Lanier Blvd.
Atlanta, GA 30306
(404) 873-2785, before 2300 ELT

Foreign DX Catches. Times are UTC; for ELT subtract 4 hours

162 FRANCE Allouis 1/22 0533 fair w/man in FF. (Connelly)

531 ALGERIA Ain Beida 1/22 0236 xint (like local) w/male AA chant. (Connelly)

540 VENEZUELA Villa del Rosario YVOV (tent) 1/22 0235 SS sports event w/frequent Venezuela mentions; atop EE oldies station (CBT?). (Connelly)

549 ALGERIA Oran/Les Trembles 1/22 0324 AA chanting getting by CFNB/YVKE - 550. (Connelly)

550 VENEZUELA YVKE 1/22 0529 "Mundial" ID briefly o/CFNB. (Connelly)

555 ST. KITTS Basseterre ZIZ 1/22 0313 mellow soul mx in WGAN slop. (Connelly)

600 CUBA Urbano Norris CMKV 1/22 0310 loud w/Cuban sports in SS // 670, 620, 710 et al. (Connelly)

600 COLOMBIA Baranquilla HJHJ (tent) 1/22 0526 Colombian accordian mx, apparent R. Sutatenza network ID; u/stronger Cuban. (Connelly)

620 CUBA Colon CMDA 1/22 0226 // 670; SS sports - Camaguey, Guantanamo mentioned. O/WZON/Antigua/others. (Connelly)

630 PUERTO RICO San Juan WQBS 1/22 0309 SS news w/several San Juan items; o/WPRO. (Connelly)

640 CUBA Guanabacoa/Pilon 1/22 0305 // 660 and others - pop mx including UK/US hits, R. Progreso ID, shouted out slogan "Ritmo!!". Atop mess. (Connelly)

640 GUADELUPE Arnouville 1/22 0220 man in FF o/u disco stn (probably YV); strongly hetted by 639 TA (Spain?) and by an off-channel LA on approximately 640.2. Also 1/22 0521 woman in FF o/Cuba. (Con)

660 CUBA Santa Clara CMED 1/22 0306 rock mx, Progreso pgm // 640; really doing a job on WFAN. (Connelly)

670 CUBA Arroyo Arenas CMBC 1/22 0216 // 710; SS sports

690 ANGUILLA The Valley 1/22 0211 barely atop mess w/EE preaching // 1610. (Connelly)

700 JAMAICA Montego Bay 1/22 0252 xint o/others w/accented interview w/local reggae performer, much talk about Bob Marley. Pgm was // 750. (Connelly)

710 CUBA Santa Clara/Camaguey 1/22 0215 atop SS LA's/WOR; SS sports // 670. (Connelly)

720 VENEZUELA Porlamar YVQL 1/22 0205 SS talk w/crowd noises (sports or political meeting?), ad w/job openings listed for positions in Caracas, Barquisimeto and other Venezuelan cities. (Connelly)

740 CUBA CMHB Camaguey 1/2 0645 poor sig w/Radio Progreso ID and rooster crowing. CBC station was off. This was parallel to 640. (W)

740 CUBA Camaguey/Pinar del Rio 1/22 0520 Progreso outlet w/SS and EE pop hits // 640, 810, 820. (Connelly)

750 JAMAICA Port Maria 1/22 0254 reggae band interview // 700. 750 Jamaican was o/u presumed YV; no WSB. (Connelly)

760 CUBA 1/22 0243 R. Reloj pgm way o/ YV and HJ; no evidence of WJR. (Connelly)

760 COLOMBIA Barranquilla HJAJ 1/22 0259 RCN network ID popped up briefly o/Reloj Cuban. (Connelly)

760 VENEZUELA Puerto la Cruz YVQQ 0514 "Q, Puerto la Cruz" ID briefly o/Cuba and HJ. (Connelly)

770 VENEZUELA Valencia YVKK 1/22 0157 o/other SS LA's and WABC; Banco Venezolano ad, Valencia mentions. (Connelly)

780 VENEZUELA San Cristobal YVOD 1/22 0153 dominant w/SS talk // 4980. (Connelly)

800 NETHERLANDS ANTILLES Bonaire PUB 1/22 0149 SS religious pgm pinning S-meter. (Connelly)

810 CUBA Camaguey CMHB 1/22 0500 R. Progreso ID // 820; badly chewing up WGY even without phasing. (Connelly)

820 CUBA 1/22 0458 dominant w/R. Progreso ID, soft SS ballad. (Con)

825 ST. KITTS Basseterre 1/22 0116 R. Paradise like a local w/southern preacher. (Connelly)

830 CUBA 12/31 0404 R. Taino booming in strong w/SS music, female announcer said in EE "Happy New Year, the best to you and yours in 1989". 1/4 0443 to 0458 s/off. This night was on 830, 1040 and 1160. Strong on both 830 and 1040, poor on 1160. First time I ever heard them sign off. No location or power given. (Wyllie)

830 VENEZUELA San Antonio de los Altos YVLT 1/22 0115 local ads, Sensacion ID, good. 1/22 0335 fast SS mx, Sensacion ID's, numerous 2 tone doorbells, Caracas mentions, superloud. (Connelly)

- 870 COLOMBIA Barranquilla HJSB 1/22 0109 accordion mx, CARACOL net ID, "Mar Caribe" ID, atop others w/low-pitched growl. (Connelly)
- 885 MONTERRAT Plymouth 1/22 0352 ZJB presumed here running strong OC after conclusion of the day's normal broadcasting. (Connelly)
- 890 UNID 1/22 0503 anncr said "buenos novhes", march (anthem) followed, then carrier off (leaving a graveyard like jumble). The signal was strong; regrettably I didn't tape the anthem for subsequent ID. (Connelly)
- 891 ALGERIA Algiers 1/22 0354 AA female vocal loud - killing 890 stations. (Connelly)
- 895 NEVIS 1/22 0105 loud w/"VON" ID mentioning Nevis, then reggae-funk version of Simin and Garfunkel's "Cecilia". (Connelly)
- 910 UNID 12/31 0420 fast SS mx, might be CHML R. Cadena Agramonte but not sure. Too much QRM. (Wyllie)
- 940 CUBA CMDI Colon 1/2 0708 time ticks, news and code "RR" ID's. Fair signal. Much interference from another SS stn in background. Other stn was too weak. (Wyllie)
- 1098 CANARY ISLANDS (tent) 1/22 0451 carrier w/possible SS talk hetting ZDK 1100 during low latitude opening. (Connelly)
- 1100 ANTIGUA St. John's ZDK 1/22 0436 good w/reggae and rap mx; mixed w/2SS LA's. (Connelly)
- 1593 WEST GERMANY Langenberg 1/22 0443 woman in GG, fair. (Connelly)
- 1610 ANGUILLA The Valley 1/22 0212 Caribbean Beacon solid w/preaching in EE; unid second signal way under (not sure what it could be - maybe a domestic TIS station?). (Connelly)

Mark Connelly - W. Yarmouth, MA
William Wyllie - Franklin, MA

ICF2010, phaser, 2 37 meter LW's
Realistic Modulaire 2200

Further Explaining Formats ... By Eric Bueneman

Since "Formatology Explained" appeared in DX NEWS (Volume 53 #17), many new formats have been developed by programming consultants and the article failed to list the various sub-types of religious programming. Even one format has a new definition.

RELIGIOUS PROGRAMMING: The general definition of REL programming is that the station runs various types of teaching programs and play various types of Christian music. (Examples: KFUP 850 Clayton, MO, WIBI 91.1 Carlinville, IL, WVEV 91.5 Cumming, GA.) The Moody Network is a good example of this. Contemporary Christian (Cont. Chr.) has the Bible teaching programs normally found on all REL stations, but the music played is predominantly contemporary in nature, designed to appeal to a younger audience. (Examples: WYNX 1550 Smyrna, GA, WCBW 104.9 Columbia, IL, WNIV 970 Atlanta, GA.) Southern Gospel (Sou. GOS) contains music that has a Bluegrass or C&W feel to the Christian lyrics. (Examples: KEXS 1090 Excelsior Springs, MO, WCUN 1010 Decatur, GA, WYDE 850 Birmingham, AL.) Easy Gospel (Easy GOS) usually offer light instrumentals and vocal music, usually Christian hymns. (Examples: WSSA 1570 Morrow, GA, WRJZ 620 Knoxville, TN.) Christian Information (Chr. Info) mainly offers Bible teaching programs and Christian talk shows, and little, if any, music is offered. Some of these stations don't bother to play music at all. (Examples: KSIV 1320 Clayton, MO, WFTD 1080 Marietta, GA.) Black Gospel (B: GOS) is by far the most popular form of Christian programming, directed at a minority audience. Some stations will throw in a few Contemporary Christian elements to emulate more of a mass-appeal sound. (Examples: WFSL 1490 East St. Louis, IL, WAOR 1380 Atlanta, GA, WYCA 92.3 Hammond, IN.)

Top 40 (T40): The new definition of this format is a mixture of current hits, recent hits and oldies that made the Billboard Top 40 between 1955 and 1979. Currents may be emphasized more or less. (Examples: WQXI 790 Atlanta, GA, WQXI-FM 94.1 Smyrna, GA, KXYQ 105.1 Salem, OR.)

Contemporary Crossover (Cont. Cross.) is a mixture of Contemporary Hits (CHR), Urban Contemporary (UC) and Dance/Disco tracks, and is usually heavily concentrated on current chart-toppers on the Billboard Hot Crossover 30 and on newly-released tracks. Either element is emphasized, but usually the latter two. (Examples: WQHT 97.1 New York, NY, KPWR 105.9 Los Angeles, CA, WPGC-FM 95.5 Morningside, MD.)

Classic Rock (Clas. ROK) emphasizes more popular LP cuts from the 1950s through the 1980s. DJ presentation and format is similar to Album-oriented Rock (AOR). (Examples: WLUP 1000 Chicago, IL, KSD 93.7 St. Louis, MO, WZGC 92.9 Atlanta, GA.)

New Wave concentrates on music that have yet to crack the Billboard Top 40 or groups that have made infrequent visits to the charts. (Public Image Limited is one example). The music rotation is determined by the charts published in the College Music Journal (CMJ) or Rockpool magazine. (Examples: KCFV 89.5 Ferguson, MO, KXLU 88.9 Los Angeles, CA, WRAS 88.5 Atlanta, GA.)

Z-Rock is a music service delivered by the Satellite Music Network, and heavily concentrated on heavy metal (example: Dokken, Anthrax) music. Some Classic Rock cuts are mixed in. (Examples: KKZR 1070 Houston, TX, WZRK 1590 Jackson, MS, KZRC 1010 Milwaukie, OR.)

New Age is a new type of music that mixes jazz, classical and even contemporary styles to create a new musical style. This is being touted as "Radio's New Comfort Zone". "Breeze" and "The Wave" are good examples. (Examples: KLTH 97.1 Florissant, MO, KITW 94.7 Los Angeles, CA, WNUA 95.5 Chicago, IL.)

Sports Radio is a format mainly revolving around local and national sporting events, sports talk programs, and the hourly newscasts are replaced by sports updates, including updated scores from various sports. Personalities are emphasized. (Example: WFAN 660 New York, NY.)

Business News is a format that appeals to the executive and businessman, and consists mainly of news from Wall Street and the business sector. (Examples: WHK 1420 Cleveland, OH, WPGC 1580 Morningside, MD.) A sub-type of this is **Financial News**, which also adds talk shows on investment, money management and financial news from the world. (Example: KMNY 1600 Los Angeles, CA.)

Community Radio stations air a wide variety of programming. Many different kinds of music and various talk shows, mainly on local issues, are offered. Much of what's on these stations aren't available on other radio stations. (Examples: KDHX 88.1 St. Louis, MO, WRFG 89.3 Atlanta, GA, KOPN 89.5 Columbia, MO.)

Full Service radio stations run a wide variety of talk and sports programs, with blocks of music, usually Easy Listening, middle-of-the-road or Adult Contemporary music. The talk shows aired are either locally-originated or satellite-fed. (Examples: KMOX 1120 St. Louis, MO, WSB 750 Atlanta, GA, WGN 720 Chicago, IL.)

Many of the definitions of the formats listed in "Formatology" (CHR, AC, AOR, News/Talk, etc.) remains unchanged. If you find a format definition that needs further clarification, feel free to send a Muse about it.

73 and good DX,

Eric Bueneman

Eric Bueneman

CITY QUIZ

John S. Bowker, Valparaiso, IN

QUIZ #22

Only one city in the United States has stations operating at the five dial positions shown below. Of course, there may be other stations in this city too! Can you spot the city?

-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----
800 890 1000 1140 1340

Here is a hint; it is one of these: Oklahoma City, Richmond, Chicago
(The answer will appear at the end of the next City Quiz in DX News.)
The answer to City Quiz #21: Memphis

NRC AM Radio Log

The most up-to-date listing of domestic MW stations available, anywhere! 200 pages, three-hole punched. \$12.95 each, to U. S. NRC members; \$13.95 Canadian NRC members; others write.
Send orders to Publications Center

The Answer Man

R. J. Edmunds

"No Question Is A Dumb Question"

753 Valley Road
Blue Bell, PA 19422-2052

Answers to members' questions, from the basic to the technical

Greetings, and welcome to the initial ANSWERMAN column. By way of introduction for the column, I've established a few categories of questions which will be handled in different ways. I've also established a few ground rules. We'll start with the letter first --

Ground Rule # 1 : Questions must relate to the AM BCB, BCB DX'ing, or to directly related areas. This is intended to include BCB history.

Ground Rule # 2 : It is not my intent to serve as a buyers' guide for equipment, listing what is available, etc. The variety is far too great to be meaningful. If specific alternatives are presented, and information is available to give a meaningful answer, an attempt will be made to do so.

That's it for the ground rules for now. I have received some questions already which are outside of these, and the rules have been explained to those individuals.

Now, on to the categories of questions. The first category includes questions which are of general interest, and which will require no major research effort. Some questions can be answered quickly, based on my own experience or my own reference materials. Others can be answered by my staff of volunteer consultants, most of whom don't even know that they've volunteered yet, and some of whom aren't even members of the NRC. No matter, though, these questions will be answered in the column as promptly as possible.

The second category includes questions for which I have no ready answer, nor do I have a ready source of same, but which in my estimation, can probably be easily answered by another member (assuming, of course, that they read and respond to the question). These will be published as open questions to the membership. Since it is not my current plan to print the names and addresses of requestors, the answers to these "public questions" should be directed back to me as the editor.

The third category includes questions which either by virtue of their complexity, length, or technical nature, either require further research, or which do not lend themselves to publication. For these, since others may be interested also, I will try to obtain and provide reference sources for the answers in the column.

The key here is going to be patience, at least at first, until we all become comfortable with what types of questions there will be, and how much trouble it is to get answers, because, contrary to Paul's buildup, I'm not likely to be able to readily answer a significant portion of the questions without some effort. By way of illustration, those questions which will be addressed in this initial column will not be all of those which have been received to date, but rather those which fit within the ground rules, and for which answers can be provided at this time.

* * * * *

QUESTION: What is the formula for converting the height of a vertical antenna expressed in electrical degrees to the height in feet or meters ?

ANSWER: Take the antenna height expressed in wavelength, say, a quarter wave, and the frequency, say, 570 kHz. Divide .57 MHz. into 948 giving 1663 feet. One quarter wave would then be 25 % of that, or 415 feet.

QUESTION: Does the vertical angle of radiation remain constant in all directions in a directional vertical array ?

ANSWER: The actual angle will remain constant, however, the amount of signal contained within that angle will vary in accordance with the directional pattern. Taller towers tend to exhibit a lesser vertical component than shorter ones, with greater concentrations at ground level. A further discussion is available in the NRC Night Pattern Book.

QUESTION: Does Radio West still exist? Is there an address or phone number ? Can parts for a Radio West ferrite be obtained ?

ANSWER: I've no idea, but I'm sure several members out there will know, and that at least one will share that knowledge with us.

Radio West is alive and well at 350 Ann's way Drive - Vista, CA 92083, (619) 726-3910. Their price list is available for \$1.00. --pls

QUESTION: Which of the following receivers is considered best for MW DX'ing - the JRC NRD-525, ICOM R-71A, or Kenwood R-5000?

ANSWER: Based upon reviews I've seen in various publications, the NRD seems to be the pick of the crop, which is also supported by reviews of earlier versions of these receivers in the hobby press. Of course, it also carries a higher price tag, but you get what you pay for, hi.

QUESTION: Can modifications be purchased to improve the performance of any of them?

ANSWER: Not currently. Presumably, at this price range (\$1000 - \$2000), they shouldn't need them.

QUESTION: What are the best directional and non-directional antennas for the BCB?

ANSWER: The best directional antenna is still a loop, be it air or ferrite core. If space is a serious consideration, ferrite may be preferable. If you have the luxury of lots of space, of course, a Beverage antenna is the top of the line.

Since the only true nondirectional antenna would be either a vertical (which is generally pretty inefficient for BCB DX due to noise and spurious vertical pickup effects) or a halo (which has never been seriously used for BCB to my knowledge) I'd have to say that there really isn't a "best" non-directional BCB antenna.

That's it for now. The column will appear semi-monthly, based upon demand. Of course, I'm not beyond inventing a few of my own questions to fill up space, either, hi. If the demand is there, I'll try to go monthly. In the meantime, 73, de RJE.

Graveyard Achievements

Distance records attained on 1230, 1240, 1340, 1400, 1450, and 1490 kHz

William Hale
2160 Farm to Market Road
Johnson City, NY 13790

1400 KhZ
Prior to Jan 1, 1960

Date of last update: Jan 29, 1989

WMSL	AL	Decatur	Carl Dabelstein	Omaha, NE	872
WXAL		Demopolis	Frank Wheeler	Erie, PA	781
WFPA		Fort Payne	Don Kaskey	Galva, IA	780
WGYV		Greenville	Don Kaskey	Omaha	832
WJLD		Homewood	Frank Wheeler	Erie	702
WJHO		Opelika	Frank Wheeler	Erie	717
WVCW	AK	Kodjak AFRS	Roy Millar	Bellevue, WA	1442
KSEW		Sitka	Roy Millar	Bellevue	850
KCLF	AZ	Clifton	Roy Millar	Bellevue	1217
KONI		Phoenix	Roy Millar	Bellevue	1116
KTUC		Tucson	Roy Millar	Bellevue	1222
KYMA		Yuma	Don Kaskey	Galva	1238
KELD	AR	El Dorado	Eric McIntosh	Invercargill, NZ	8231
KCLA		Pine Bluff	Don Kaskey	Galva	592
KRE	CA	Berke Bluff	Eric McIntosh	Invercargill	7232
KCRE		Crescent City	Bellevue		414
KREO		Indio	Stan Morss	Bellevue, MA	2525
KSDA		Redding	Roy Millar	Bellevue	293
KSLY		San Luis Obispo	Don Kaskey	Sacramento, CA	880
KCOY		Santa Maria	Roy Millar	Bellevue	7151
KSPA		Santa Paula	Eric McIntosh	Invercargill	588
KUKI		Ukiah	Roy Millar	Bellevue	7283
KONG		Visalia	Eric McIntosh	Invercargill	1070
KRLN	CO	Canon City	Roy Millar	Bellevue	1161
KBNZ		La Junta	Roy Millar	Bellevue	1101
WFTL	FL	Ft Lauderdale	Frank Wheeler	Erie	888
WIRA		Ft Pierce	Don Kaskey	Galva	989
WNUE		Ft Walton Beach	Frank Wheeler	Erie	925
WPCF		Panama City Beach	Don Kaskey	Galva	527
WTRR		Sanford	Frank Wheeler	Erie	582
WCLB	GA	Camilla	Frank Wheeler	Bellevue	2219
WSGC		Elberton	Frank Wheeler	Bellevue	2385
WDUN		Gainesville	Roy Millar	Bellevue	519
WNEX		Macon	Roy Millar	Bellevue	7859
KIFI	ID	Idaho Falls	Eric McIntosh	Invercargill	270
KART		Jerome	Roy Millar	Bellevue	447
KSEL		Moscow	Eric McIntosh	Invercargill	543
KSEL		Sand Point	Roy Millar	Bellevue	516
WDWS	IL	Champaign	Frank Wheeler	Galva	468
WGIL		Galesburg	Frank Wheeler	Galva	139
WEOA	IN	Evansville	Don Kaskey	Galva	1417
WBAI		Marion	Don Kaskey	Galva	599
KCOG	IA	Centerville	Roy Millar	Bellevue	538
KVFD		Ft Dodge	Don Kaskey	Galva	9202
KVFD		Elizabethtown	Frank Wheeler	Erie	461
WRDO	ME	Augusta	Eric McIntosh	Invercargill	281
WWIN	MD	Baltimore	Frank Wheeler	Erie	139
WALE	MA	Fall River	Eric McIntosh	Invercargill	220
WKNR	MI	Battle Creek	Frank Wheeler	Erie	526
WJLB		Detroit	Frank Wheeler	Erie	1105
WIBM		Jackson	Eric McIntosh	Invercargill	219
WSAM		Saginaw	Frank Wheeler	Erie	712
WTCH		Traverse City	Don Kaskey	Galva	768
KMHL	MN	Marshall	Don Phillips	Clinton, TN	592
WMIN		St Paul	Frank Wheeler	Erie	740
WHLB		Virginia	Frank Wheeler	Erie	670
WNAG	MS	Grenada	Frank Wheeler	Erie	492
WFOR		Hattiesburg	Frank Wheeler	Erie	718
WJQS		Jackson	Don Kaskey	Galva	821
KFRU	MO	Columbia	Frank Wheeler	Galva	612
KSIM		Sikeston	Don Kaskey	Galva	1031
KTSS	MT	Springfield	Frank Wheeler	Erie	1119
KXGN		Lewistown	Frank Wheeler	Erie	7389
KXKL		Great Falls	Roy Millar	Bellevue	913
KCOW	NE	Alliance	Roy Millar	Bellevue	2089
KOLN		Lincoln	Roy Millar	Bellevue	7552
KPTL	NV	Carson City	Eric McIntosh	Invercargill	1117
KBMI		Henderson	Roy Millar	Bellevue	1486
KENO		Las Vegas	Hank Holbrook	Chevy Chase, MD	1480
KWNA		Winnemucca	Eric McIntosh	Invercargill	1391
WOND	NJ	Pleasantville	Don Kaskey	Galva	7834
KTRC	NH	Santa Fe	Frank Wheeler	Erie	393
KCRS		Truth or Consequences	Frank Wheeler	Erie	287
KGFL		Roswell	Frank Wheeler	Erie	477
KTNH		Tucumcari	Roy Millar	Bellevue	397
WABY	NY	Albany	Eric McIntosh	Invercargill	882
WSLB		Ogdensburg	Frank Wheeler	Erie	704
WHOC	NC	Waynesville	Frank Wheeler	Erie	923
KNOX	ND	Grand Forks	Frank Wheeler	Erie	1025
WMAN	OH	Mansfield	Don Kaskey	Galva	1388
WPAY		Portsmouth	Don Kaskey	Galva	
KWON	OK	Bartlesville	Frank Wheeler	Erie	
WNOR		Norman	Frank Wheeler	Erie	
KWIN	OR	Ashland	Don Kaskey	Galva	

KOMB		Cottage Grove	Roy Millar	Bellevue	274
KBCH		Oceanlake	Roy Millar	Bellevue	198
WEST	PA	Easton	Frank Wheeler	Erie	258
WJET		Erie	Roy Millar	Bellevue	2194
WKBI		St Marys	Frank Wheeler	Erie	82
WRAK		Williamsport	Frank Wheeler	Erie	184
WBSC	SC	Bennetsville	Don Kaskey	Galva	1015
WCOS		Columbia	Frank Wheeler	Erie	555
WGZN		Georgetown	Don Kaskey	Galva	1082
WJZM	TN	Clarksville	Don Kaskey	Galva	588
WHUB		Cookeville	Don Kaskey	Galva	685
WKPT		Kingsport	Roy Millar	Bellevue	218
WGAP		Maryville	Roy Millar	Bellevue	2114
WHAL		Shelbyville	Don Kaskey	Galva	680
KRUN	TX	Ballinger	Roy Millar	Bellevue	1593
KBYG		Big Spring	Roy Millar	Bellevue	1524
KVLE		Galveston	Eric McIntosh	Invercargill	7860
KGVL		Greenville	Frank Wheeler	Erie	1079
KIUN		Pecos	Frank Wheeler	Erie	1429
KVOP		Plainview	Roy Millar	Bellevue	1487
KTEM		Temple	Frank Wheeler	Erie	1224
KTES		Texarkana	Frank Wheeler	Erie	953
KCSU	UT	Provo	Don Kaskey	Galva	850
WLOW	VA	Portsmouth	Don Kaskey	Galva	1090
WHLF		South Boston	Frank Wheeler	Erie	400
WIRC		Winchester	Frank Wheeler	Erie	257
KRKO	WA	Everett	Don Kaskey	Galva	1356
KFRD		Grand Coulee	Don Kaskey	Galva	1230
KWLK		Longview	Roy Millar	Bellevue	104
KRSC		Othello	Frank Wheeler	Erie	1517
KTNT		Tacoma	Roy Millar	Bellevue	32
KYAK		Yakima	Don Kaskey	Galva	1265
WRON	WV	Roncerverte	Frank Wheeler	Erie	328
WPKW		Wheeling	Frank Wheeler	Erie	185
WBTH		Williamson	Don Kaskey	Galva	775
WATW	WI	Ashland	Frank Wheeler	Erie	585
WBIZ		Eau Claire	Frank Wheeler	Erie	420
WDUZ		Green Bay	Frank Wheeler	Erie	679
KODI	WY	Cody	Roy Millar	Bellevue	277
CKOB	ON	Renfrew	Frank Wheeler	Erie	9207
CKFH		Toronto	Eric McIntosh	Invercargill	428
CKRN	PQ	Rouyn	Frank Wheeler	Erie	690
CKSW	SK	Swift Current	Roy Millar	Bellevue	

1400 KhZ
Jan. 1, 1960 to present

Date of last update: Feb 1, 1989

WMSL	AL	Decatur	John Wilkins	West Des Moines, IA	604
WXAL		Demopolis	Robert Kramer	Chicago, IL	655
WJLD		Fairfield	Karl Jeter	Stone Mountain, GA	158
WFPA		Fort Payne	Fuss Edmunds	Parsippany, NJ	293
WJLD		Homewood	Steve Francis	Alcoa, TN	245
WJHO		Opelika	Robert Kramer	Chicago	660
AFRN	AK	Tok	Esa Hanninen	Leemminjoki, Finland	4746
KXIV	AZ	Phoenix	Roy Millar	Marysville, WA	1109
KRVZ	AZ	Springerville	Jim Hilliker	Anaheim, CA	495
KTUC		Tucson	Don Kaskey	Sacramento, CA	740
KVOY		Yuma	Roy Millar	Marysville	1106
KELA	AR	El Dorado	Frank Merrill	Winnipeg, MI	785
KCLA		Pine Bluff	Robert Kramer	Chicago	785
KRE	CA	Berkeley	Eric McIntosh	Invercargill, NZ	7232
KRCQ		Indio	Jim Hilliker	Anaheim	102
KQMS		Redding	Esa Hanninen	Leemminjoki	6228
KSLY		San Luis Obispo	Gene Nix	Billings	935
KAAP		Santa Paula	Don Kaskey	San Francisco, CA	305
KHOE		Truckee	Roy Millar	Marysville	581
KUKI		Ukiah	Frank Merrill	Nanena	2088
KVIS		Visalia	Frank Merrill	Nanena	2334
KRLN	CO	Canon City	John Wilkins	Wheat Ridge, CO	92
KDTA		Delta	Carl Dabelstein	Omaha, NE	674
KFTM		Ft Morgan	Roy Millar	Marysville	1053
KBZZ		La Junta	Roy Millar	Marysville	1161
KFAG		Pagosa Springs	Carl Dabelstein	Overland Park, KS	662
WSTC	CT	Stamford	Andy Rugg	Montreal, PQ	305
WILI		Williamatic	Jeff Falconer	Clinton, ON	487
WFTL	FL	Ft Lauderdale	Bruce Conti	West Warwick, RI	1187
WNUE		Ft Walton Beach	Frank Merrill	Milan	820
WERD		Jacksonville	Robert Kramer	Chicago	875
WUEZ		Sanford	Alan Imprescia	New York, NY	922
WPAS		Zephyrhills	Alan Imprescia	New York	1000
WXXX	GA	Alpharetta	Eric Bueneman	Woodstock, GA	18
WCLB		Camilla	Karl Jeter	Stone Mountain	182
WNEX		Macon	Mike Csorbay	Canfield, ON	774
WNGA		Moultrie	Rich Eddie	St Louis	660
WSEB		Quitman	Karl Jeter	Stone Mountain, GA	221
WBSA		Savannah	Rick Dau	Oakland, IA	1240
KAPT	ID	Perona	Esa Hanninen	Leemminjoki	5767
KRPL		Moscow	Eric McIntosh	San Francisco, CA	688
WDWS	IL	Champaign	Carl Dabelstein	Omaha	412
WGIL		Galesburg	Mike Csorbay	Canfield	567
WEOA	IN	Evansville	Roy Millar	Marysville	1884
WBAI		Marion	Esa Hanninen	Leemminjoki	5203
KCOG	IA	Centerville	Rich Eddie	St Louis	220
KVFD		Ft Dodge	Frank Merrill	Toledo, OH	537
KVOE	KS	Emporia	Niel Olifish	Winnipeg	807
KAYS		Hays	John Alford	Karasuando	5368
KWYN	KY	Cynthiana	Carl Dabelstein	Lincoln, NE	850
WIEL		Elizabethtown	Frank Merrill	Toledo	288
WFPB	LA	Hammond	Roy Millar	Marysville	2080
KAOK		Lake Charles	Carl Dabelstein	Lincoln	755

KWLA	Many	Robert Kramer	Chicago	795
WRDO	ME Augusta	Carl Dabelstein	Omaha	1333
WIDE	Biddeford	Rodney Valdron	Petia Rocher, NB	380
WMCS	Machias	Jerry Starr	Youngstown, OH	740
WWIN	MD Baltimore	Andy Rugg	Montreal	445
WALE	MA Fall River	Tim Kerfoot	Toronto, ON	450
WLLH	Lowell	George Walton	Easton, PA	225
WLLH	Northampton	Tim Kerfoot	Toronto	410
WKNR	MI Battle Creek	Andy Rugg	Montreal	220
WJLE	Detroit	Steve Francis	Alcoa	455
WGOB	Munising	Carl Dabelstein	Omaha	643
WSAM	Saginaw	Carl Dabelstein	Lincoln	615
WJCM	St Joseph	Carl Dabelstein	Lincoln	680
WTCM	Traverse City	Morris Sorensen	Milton, ON	343
KEYL	Wong Prairie	Dave Yocis	East Lansing, MI	140
KMHL	Marshall	Niel Wolfish	Winnipeg	312
KEEY	St Paul	Roy Millar	Marysville	1291
WHLB	Virginia	Frank Merrill	Toledo	521
WBIP	MS Booneville	Morris Sorensen	Leaf Rapids	755
WJWF	Columbus	Ralph Sperry	Fairfield, CT	700
WFOR	Hattiesburg	Bill Bergadano	Staten Island, NY	900
WWSB	Jackson	Steve Francis	Alcoa	455
KFRU	MO Columbia	Frank Merrill	Milan	750
KJCF	Festus	Pete Taylor	San Francisco	1640
KSIM	Sikeston	Frank Merrill	Holland, OH	424
KTTE	Springfield	Jerry Starr	Youngstown	608
KDRG	Deer Lodge	John Wilkins	Wheat Ridge, CO	858
KXGN	Glendive	Esa Hanninen	Lemmenjoki	571
KARR	Great Falls	Morris Sorensen	Leaf Rapids	570
KJTK	Whitefish	Pete Taylor	San Francisco	883
KBRF	NE Ainsworth	Roy Millar	Marysville	381
KCOW	NE Alliance	Morris Sorensen	God's Narrows, MB	935
KLIN	Lincoln	Esa Hanninen	Lemmenjoki	5367
KBMI	NV Henderson	Esa Hanninen	Lemmenjoki	5245
KWNA	Winnemucca	Mike Knitter	Rapid City, SD	632
WBRL	NH Berlin	Olle Alm	Abisko, Sweden	572
WTSL	Hanover	Steve Goozovat	Binghamton, NY	294
WOND	NJ Pleasantville	Rodney Valdron	Petit Rocher	425
KMIN	NM Grants	Steve Whitt	Anglesey, North Wales	3474
KTRC	Santa Fe	John Wilkins	Wheat Ridge	353
KCHS	Truth or Consequences	Rick Carr	Oakland	854
KTNM	Tucumcari	John Wilkins	Wheat Ridge	468
WABY	NY Albany	Jerry Starr	Hubbard, OH	1300
WYSL	Buffalo	Rodney Valdron	Petit Rocher	530
WDNY	Dansville	Pat Hartlage	Louisville, KY	480
WLEL	Ogdensburg	Don Vocrhies	Oswego, NY	82
WBOC	Greensboro	Bill Bergadano	Staten Island	295
WSTC	Statesville	John Wilkins	West Des Moines	832
WHCC	Waynesville	Russ Edmunds	Kinneton, NJ	495
WEMY	Weldon	Steve Francis	Alcoa	80
KEYJ	ND Jamestown	Chris Lucas	Ithaca, NY	424
WHAN	OH Mansfield	Carl Dabelstein	Omaha	424
WPAY	Portsmouth	Carl Dabelstein	Omaha	681
KWON	OK Bartlesville	Russ Edmunds	Parsippany	490
KTRC	McAlester	Wayne Heinen	Colorado Springs	610
KNOR	Norman	John Wilkins	West Des Moines	478
KIVR	OR Cave Junction	Olle Alm	Karesuando	5585
KKND	Cottage Grove	Roy Millar	Marysville	380
KJDY	John Day	Don Kaskey	Sacramento	970
KBCH	Lincoln City	Roy Millar	Marysville	272
WEST	PA Easton	Richard E. Wood	Hilo, HI	2524
WJET	Erie	Andy Rugg	Montreal	390
WFBC	Harrisburg	Eric McIntosh	Invercargill	9145
WWSF	Lancaster	Andy Rugg	Montreal	390
WKBI	St Marys	Jeff Falconer	Clinton	281
WICK	Scranton	Carl Dabelstein	Omaha	890
WRAC	Williamsport	Frank Merrill	Milan	408
WCOS	Columbia	Frank Merrill	Milan	955
WGTV	Georgetown	Roy Millar	Marysville	2354
WDYD	Spartanburg	Ron Musco	Windsor, CT	700
KBJM	Lenon	Robert Kramer	Chicago	580
WJZM	TN Clarksville	Mike Knitter	Rapid City	133
WHUB	Cookeville	Dave Schmidt	New Castle, DE	670
WLSB	Copperhill	Forest Osborn	Hooker, OK	830
WKPT	Kingsport	Roy Millar	Marysville	215
WGAP	Maryville	Dave Fox	Reading, PA	460
WHAL	Shelbyville	Jeff Falconer	Clinton	544
KUNO	TX Corpus Christi	Bill Bergadano	Staten Island	650
KILE	Galveston	Roy Millar	Marysville	1941
KGVL	Greenville	Rick Carr	Bloomington	840
KIUN	Pecos	Jerry Starr	Hubbard	1025
KEYE	Perryton	Marysville	Marysville	1552
KVOP	Plainview	John Wilkins	Wheat Ridge	331
KDWT	Stamford	Niel Wolfish	Winnipeg	1109
KTEM	Temple	Roy Millar	Marysville	1558
KYDU	Uvalde	Roy Millar	Marysville	1751
KTXK	UT Provo	Rich Eddie	St Louis	847
WDOT	VT Burlington	Brett Hanavan	Chula Vista, CA	610
WINA	VA Charlottesville	Tim Kerfoot	Toronto	310
WHIH	Portsmouth	John Wilkins	West Des Moines	844
WHLF	South Boston	Andy Rugg	Montreal	815
WINC	Winchester	Roy Millar	Marysville	2348
KLCK	WA Goldendale	John Wilkins	West Des Moines	827
KEDD	Longview	Roy Millar	Marysville	189
KRSC	Othello	Esa Hanninen	Lemmenjoki	5739
KITZ	Silverdale	Esa Hanninen	Lemmenjoki	5547
KTNT	Tacoma	Olle Alm	Abisko	5332
WRON	WV Roncverte	Don Kaskey	Sacramento	597
WSPZ	Spencer	Tim Kerfoot	Toronto	420
WKWK	Wheeling	Andy Rugg	Waterloo, ON	325
WATW	WI Ashland	Esa Hanninen	Lemmenjoki	4714
WBIZ	Eau Claire	Roy Millar	Marysville	1480
WDUZ	Green Bay	Rich Eddie	St Louis	439
WRJN	Racine	Morris Sorensen	God's Narrows	1035
		Frank Merrill	Milan	217

WRDB	Reedsburg	Niel Wolfish	Winnipeg	589
WRIG	Wausau	Frank Merrill	Toledo	374
KATI	WY Casper	Roy Millar	Marysville	840
KODY	AB Cody	Niel Wolfish	Winnipeg	622
CKSA	BC Stettler	Esa Hanninen	Lemmenjoki	4839
CFLD	BC Burns Lake	Roy Millar	Marysville	494
CKGR	Golden	Roy Millar	Marysville	351
CKRP	Princeton	Esa Hanninen	Lemmenjoki	5354
CJEK	Sparwood	Tim Hall	Banff, AB	107
CBWG	MB Gilling	Morris Sorensen	God's Narrows	200
CIHI	NB Fredericton	Frank Dailey	Preston, CT	390
CBC	NF Gander	Esa Hanninen	Ristina	3315
CKCB	ON Collingwood	Steve Francis	Alcoa	630
CKOB	Renfrew	Sharon Skowers	Enfield, CT	300
CBEE	Sturgeon Falls	Morris Sorensen	Emsdale, ON	74
CKRV	PQ Drummondville	Rodney Valdron	Petit Rocher	350
CKFL	Lac Megantic	Chris Lucas	Ithaca	355
CKRN	Rouyn	Jeff Falconer	Clinton	348
XEPF	BCN Ensenada	Tim Hall	Chula Vista	52
XEEF	SIN Cullacan	Richard E. Wood	Hilo	3058
ZPK	NSW Parkes	Roy Millar	Marysville	8492

FCC RULES PRIMER

JOHN D. BOWKER - PRINCETON JUNCTION, NJ

IV. AM BROADCAST CHANNELS

First, let's learn some FCC definitions.

Rule Section 73.14:

"AM Broadcast Band" The band of frequencies extending from 535 to 1605 kilohertz.

"AM Broadcast Channel" The band of frequencies occupied by the carrier and the upper and lower sidebands of an AM broadcast signal with the carrier frequency at the center. Channels are designated by their associated carrier frequencies. The 107 carrier frequencies assigned to AM broadcast stations begin at 540 kilohertz (kHz) and are in successive steps of 10 kHz to 1600 kHz.

"AM Broadcast Station" A broadcast station licensed for the dissemination and operated on a channel in the band 535-1605 kHz. The term "AM broadcast" is synonymous with the term "standard broadcast" as may appear elsewhere in this chapter.

We will come back for other definitions in future installments of this series in DX News but, for now, that's enough.

An experienced DXer will recognize that not all channels were created equal. Some AM broadcast channels are called "Clear", some are designed for stations covering several counties perhaps, and others are used by relatively low-powered stations to cover a town. It is interesting to see that different countries did not agree on just which channels should be allocated for each purpose; even our Canadian neighbors have authorized stations on some channels to use powers quite a bit higher than is allowed a U.S. station.

The Clear Channels are 640, 650, 660, 670, 680, 690, 700, 710, 720, 750, 760, 770, 780, 810, 820, 830, 840, 850, 860, 870, 880, 890, 1020, 1030, 1040, 1050, 1060, 1070, 1080, 1090, 1100, 1100, 1110, 1120, 1130, 1140, 111170, 1180, 1190, 1200, 1210, 1500, 1510, 1520, 1530, 1540, 1550, 1560. But they can't just all be grouped into this one category without further explanation.

We will take a closer look at this matter in our next installment in this series in DX News.

NEXT INSTALLMENT: CLASSES OF STATIONS ON THE CLEAR CHANNELS

The Topeka Capital-Journal, Saturday, February 11, 1989

Court upholds repeal of Fairness Doctrine

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal appeals court on Friday ruled that the Federal Communications Commission had the authority to repeal the broadcast Fairness Doctrine, but the court sidestepped the overriding issue of the doctrine's constitutionality.

The U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia unanimously upheld on statutory grounds the FCC's August 1987 repeal of the 40-year-old doctrine, which required broadcasters to provide balanced coverage of controversial issues.

The commission had said the doctrine no longer served the public interest and was unconstitutional on First Amendment grounds.

In its ruling Friday, the appeals court said the FCC had the authority to decide whether the doctrine served the public interest. But the three-judge panel decided not to address the constitutional issue, which had been a primary basis for the court challenge to the FCC's decision.

Congress is expected to make the doctrine a law again this year, but

President Bush has said he would veto such a bill.

The FCC, in a statement, said the court's decision was "a victory for the free speech rights of all Americans." The court has vindicated the public's right to receive broadcast press coverage free from government interference.

But a constitutional rights organization called it a "hollow win for the FCC."

The Topeka Capital Journal - via Paul Swearingen

Musings

of the Members

Mike and Sue Knitter
P. O. Box 24
Cambridge, WI 53523-0024
Times are local per Muse.

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

This should now bring us up-to-date on any musing hold outs.

Rod O'Connor - CG Box 1467 - Kodiak, AK 99619-1467 24 Jan 89

Hello from the frozen north. With the long nights a major effort has been made to do some decent DX. Unfortunately, results have been poor. Two major obstacles to what should be an excellent DX location. Fluorescent lights upstairs at the landlord's, and horrible electrical interference from a mysterious source, probably a hot water heater. This winter it is the worst of the past five. Even with a new ground installed last summer, results were not much improved. Not a total waste though. Pre-sunrise winter DX still nets most all Alaskans. Still no activity from Fairbanks on 1300. They've been off for nearly 1 1/2 years now. Also from Fairbanks KCBF-820 is now new-age "The breeze". One of few stations to go new-age on AM, only not as an FM-simulcast. Have been trying to listen during KTWO-1030 silent period for possible WB2, but no luck, surprisingly, usually splatter leaks over from CKXY Vancouver. I've been taking Gene Martin's advice and trying out above 1600. Aside from the now semi-regular 1610 TIS from near Anchorage, I have yet to hear anything at home here on my Superradio with the loop, or Sony 2010 with long-wire. However at work with our SW receiver there is often a very faint signal on 1628-29, which I suspect may be something from down-under. Have yet to get enough of a signal to attempt any ID. Regrettably our set at base does not tune between 500-1600 KHz. Since, we use it for frequent contact with our aircraft on 5 and 8 MHz freqs, there is a factory-installed circuit to keep from interfering on BCB. Just received the new NRC AM RADIO LOG, and am very pleased. I went over all the Alaskan stations and have a few minor corrections. [Rod, Your other logbook changes will appear in Updater # 2 later this year. Thanks - HQ] First off, delete all Armed Forces Radio Stations in Alaska except for the 1340-Port Yukon site. Former repeaters at Elmendorf 890 formerly used for emergency use, has been discontinued. Also gone is the original Armed Forces Radio Station in the world, which originated right here in Kodiak, Alaska on 960. Its last transmission was in January 1987. Other AFRN sites done away with are 970 - King Salmon; 1400 - Tok Junction (shifted to FM); and 1550 Black Rapids. That's all for now.

Frank Merrill - P.O. Box 669 - Macomb, IL 61455

Bon jour! Who says that diligence doesn't pay off? Between that, my prior DX techniques and a lot of room for very long antennas, I managed to sprint from ZERO to 1,002 stations logged in less than 39 days! Is this some kind of record? My best antenna is the 1200-footer that is virtually west-south-west, and now on stakes to keep it out of the snow. Another 1200 foot wire going southeast does wonders for sunrise DX from the Southeastern US and it brought me my first South American (total is now 3): Brazil - 1280! I've heard this unusual "first" two or three times now; they're 200Kw with no other really strong Latins on the frequency. Their slogan is "Tupi" and, if your 1280 isn't blocked during Auroras, this may actually be the best Brazil bet from the Central or Eastern US, because most other powerful Brazilians (740, 860, 940, 1180, etc.) are blocked by other, nearer powerful Latins, usually Cubans or Venezuelans. Actually, Haiti (the only other Latin on 1280 with much power) is more common here during Auroras. Some people wrote me with comments like "I'm sorry to hear that you lost all your old logs, Frank," etc. All of my old logs are actually VERY MUCH "alive" and accessible; I only "lost" my old location. Moving nearly 400 miles west of my old digs, I started my totals anew. But, God willing, I'll still have my old logs 20 years from now, and I may even add to them occasionally in the form of DXpeditions when I revisit my former Toledo/Michigan areas. Am still trying to receive HI in Macomb, HI - but I feel there is hope because I think I've heard adult contemporary music under WCCO, and I've definitely had religion far under WWL. I guess it could be KROL. [Yep, heard KROL here, so I think that may be your best bet - HQ] Perhaps my 830 was XEVO, which is heard here occasionally. I'll always feel fortunate that I experienced the end of the Golden Era of nationwide clear regionals on Monday mornings (such as 1420 after KSTN signoff, 950, and 1460) when I lived 40 miles from Detroit. With only 40 feet or wire draped in the second-floor attic, I managed to hear Hawaiians and even-farther

Trans-Pacifcs, using a HQ-129X, between 1962 and 1965. My wire must've been near something that made it heavily favor the West, because I rarely heard any Trans-Atlantics, and I even went 5 or 6 years without hearing WMID-1340 (a very common catch of that era) even once. Seven tea trees.

Chris Cuomo - 670 Third Avenue - Verona, PA 15147-1349

A couple of Muses ago, I "phooeyed" WPTS for not sending any bumper stickers. I now take it back. It just arrived a few days ago, three months after I sent for it. At 19 watts it is the smallest station that I have a stix from. WPTS is Pitt University's radio station, not WPIT. Anyone can see that the AM band is hurting right now. One idea I think might be just what the doctor ordered for AM is a system of low-power commercial stations designated for one of the new channels (1620-1700) of the proposed band expansion. Stations would be 10 to 100 watts, non-directional, daytime or non-stop operation, and would not be allowed to join any network. Most stations would be operated by schools or local groups, however stations could probably be operated by churches, private individuals or even prisons. Louisiana State Penitentiary has a non-commercial FM already, KLSP. Given the permission to air advertisements many would probably succeed in rural areas. Such a system would put AM a jump ahead of FM, which doesn't and probably never will have such a system. Stations such as this could be perfect for covering local news and events. Due to their small coverage area, several hundred could be licensed to a channel. I still, however, have doubts as to whether the band expansion will ever be. Radios are not being made to tune to 1700. [You noticed that too, huh? - HQ] Even if started today every new radio being made tuned to 1700, it would probably be at least 10 years before the majority of radios in use tuned the new frequencies. By then it may be too late. No one is going to start a station where most people cannot tune it in even if they wanted to. What do you think? Does anyone have the address for XETRA-Tijuana? I am looking for a no-frills list of AM stations in Mexico. (simply Call letters, QTH, and power). [We are looking for someone to do such a list, if you care to volunteer your services let us know - HQ] It will help with the Bandscan column I hope to be doing soon. Thanx and 73s.

Mark Connelly - 20 William Road - Billerica, MA 01866 - 3 Jan 89

I was saddened to hear of the recent death of NRC DXer Tom Farmerie. Tom was an intelligent person, a valued friend. He was only in his late 40s; his widow and his 10-year old son are those affected the most. To me, he represented a kind of perfectionist. He strove to learn the most possible about DXing and his several other hobbies, notably astronomy and '40s/'50s jazz/blues music. We corresponded often about phasing units, foreign DXing, and many other matters. His letters indicated that he reread works of literary merit extensively. Tom has a quick wit and a sense of humor that could range from gentle and good natured to caustic and cynical. The latter element of his humor comes from an apparent devotion to the writings of "gonzo journalist" Hunter Thompson and to '50s "beat" comedians / writers such as Lenny Bruce, Lord Buckley, and Allen Ginsburg. He didn't hesitate to praise the worthy nor did he hesitate to turn the sharp edge of his humor on those who bugged him: various politicians (often conservative ones), DXers who faked verie counts, and individuals with over-inflated egos with no "beef" (outstanding works) to back them up. Tom and I didn't agree on everything (notably, he didn't like much post-1960 Top 40 music and he didn't believe in reporting "routine" Trans-Atlantic DX catches), but we did share a number of views. Tom kept abreast of modern technology, but retained a deep reverence for the pioneers of radio. His greatest contribution to the hobby may have been acting as a vital bridge between (the dwindling number of) young DXers and the great DXers of radio's early days (few of whom are left). Tom knew that the often-neglected wisdom gathered through the tireless efforts of early radio inventors is of more than merely historical interest: it can still be used to solve DXing problems of today. Designing with multiple stages of high-Q tuned circuits, for instance, was second nature to radiomen of the tube era; this design concept still stands head and shoulders above today's broadband RF processing techniques in strong-signal urban areas. When Tom was just a kid in the '50s, he met many of Medium waves DXing's founding fathers. This left a permanent impression on him. Documenting the hobby's history (and related history, such as the lore of shipboard code operators) became important, especially as it became apparent that much of that history was being lost carelessly. Tom was dismayed with a perceived downshift in quality, especially American-made quality, over the last three decades. His feelings echoed those of the recent best-seller, "The Closing of the American Mind". High-school and College kids don't know as much now about classical music, art, great books, ancient Greece. Cars have too much

plastic. Music is often less imaginative and lyrics less literate. Railroads, newspapers, and family businesses are having trouble surviving. Old-time baseball was better. And, at the head of this quality slide, is Tom's once-beloved AM radio. First, radio drama dried up. Then, music - all kinds - went to FM. Finally, clear-channel break-ups and satellite-fed programming largely trampled the DXer's ability to travel vicariously to other parts of the U.S. and hear locally-originated programs reflecting the diverse lifestyles that once existed in enclaves such as the rural South. Tom didn't go for the idea of the fast-food homogenization of America with its resulting loss of regional/ethnic cultural uniquenesses. His perfectionism likely caused stress; frequent job changes indicated this possibility. Tom, like fellow DXer Ron Schatz, has left life long before he should have. We'll miss him.

Ken Onyschuk - 19110 Pine Drive - Country Club Hills, IL

Well, that figures. I just send in a muse, thinking my last one got lost and it shows up the next day. [You bet, and we are now back on a timely manner with this section- HQ] New Years Eve: Finished a so-so year, by nabbing CHR outlet 1200-WBCE-KY at sign-off. Still no sign of WMXA Chicago - Fine. We don't need it. Also local 1470 WMPD remains with carted ID by female - sounded good. [???, most IDs are on carts...aren't they? - HQ] Now I'd like to thank Peter Dal Corobbo of Homewood for letting me borrow the missing DX NEWS issues. That helped. Fall Chicago Arbitron released 1-9: 1-WGN, 3-WBBM, 15-WLUP, 18-WJJD, 20-WLS, 21-WMAQ & WVON, 26-WIND, 28-WXEZ, 30-WTAQ, 33-WNDZ & WGCI, oh dear 39-WJPC - are they really heard - perhaps we remember my old WCFL slogan "We Can't Find Listeners", hi. Sad note - the Big 89 is merely a 1.6 - worst ever. Can't last for long. They're thinking of satellite 2-Rock. The WNTS was pretty good. I can remember in the early 70s, when I took a friend down to Indy to see the Indians play the Cubs, then in Wichita. The Chicago Cubs were on WNIR-1590. At home, I never heard it even at local sunset. Until the 500w night power went on. I am surprised that WNTS protects WAIK in western Illinois. I may have heard WAIK here once. Wish I knew its coverage area. On the subject, I did ride to Kankakee 30 miles south a few times, 1590 WGNX suburban Evanston is still heard over weak WNTS. So is 810 WGRt then EZL, WATI. Other regulars are 1070 WIBC and 1260 WNDZ. 1310 WTUX ex WIFE, is rarely heard. Recently, during bitter cold, I tried for 830 WCCO nights for their weather reports, but was really annoyed by the Cuban which must have been using super power - really buried WCCO nights and early mornings. To finish, I'm really disappointed in 1090 KAAY's religious format. I used to enjoy its oldies music, but is it necessary on a former great rock station, like WABC, etc. +++

Pete Kemp, KZ1Z - P.O. Box 73 - Bethel, CT 06801

Greetings all...Television comes to Radio? The popular gameshow Jeopardy will be making its debut of radio in March. The show is scheduled for syndication to Oldies, News/talk and Adult Contemporary formatted stations...While WOR in the Big Apple has had the famed Gambling dynasty, WNEW has recently announced that Jeffrey B. Williams, son of the legendary William B. Williams has joined the station and will take over the reins of the Milkman Matinee overnight on weekends...CBS has signed on to purchase WWJ in Detroit...Alan Burke, a popular TV issue/discussion show in the mid 60s, a la Morton Downey, is returning to radio in Philadelphia on WCAU in the 9-noon spot...Baltimore radio has been in a state of flux. Recently WFBR switched from a Talk to oldies format, with many on-air personalities being given the gate. Some of them didn't have to walk too far, as Joe Lombardo, Frank Lumber, Tom Marr and Ken Maylath have signed on at WCBM...WHBO talkmaster John DeCieux has moved on to WJNT in Jackson, MS. WHBO is now programming oldies...WOHO in Toledo, is now programming country music, and no longer simulcasts its sister stations - WWWM-TV/AM...Noah Adams is returning to All Things Considered on National Public Radio...The FCC has reversed its decision to allow limited on-air adult programming during the overnight hours. Decency standards will remain the same 24/hrs a day. The National Association of Broadcasters will undoubtedly fight this decision...For you trivia nuts, Danny Donaduce, formerly of the TV's Partridge Family fame, has surfaced in Philadelphia as a DJ on WEGX-FM...Recent RADAR reports that radio listeners split 76% to 24% FM to AM, with about 24,000,000 people listening at an average during any 15 minute segment. That's a lot of ears...

Bill Alisauskas - 7553 Hillside Dr. - Douglasville, GA 30134-3332

Hi all! First, the news. WSLE-1440 has resumed broadcasting as of 2-10-89! Same building, new owner. Format is old from 6 am s/on to 1200 noon, c&w noon to 4 pm; gospel till s/off (seems this way; haven't talked to anyone in charge yet!). Only legal ID is on the hour. More to follow.

Some DX! 1-31: KSTA-1030 at 7 pm s/off with REL, no WBZ at all. Their 2-1: KVOO-1170, 6:30 pm with legal ID. KLIF-1190, 7:15 pm with ID at their power cut; left only a very weak WOWO. Then a shocker - WDMG-860 on top at 8:23 pm with adult contemp. and ad for attractions at the Omni in Atlanta. Cx very southern here - in 1 1/2 years never saw it this pronounced. Take care, and good DX!

Niel J. Wolfish - 178 Florence Ave. - Willowdale, ON M2N 1G4

It's been several weeks since I last wrote a Muse for DX News Clippings (not any more, since you and others are Musing! -pls). Sporadic attempts to DX in the last few months have been attempted, mostly at sunrise before going to work. I seem to be doing more Shortwave (or do I have to call it "World Band"? DX'ing these days. Fellow Torontonians Michael Bolitho and I had a mini-DXpedition at New Years in Denedin, on a farm 90 minutes northwest of the city. We had 3 short beverages erected to the south, east, and northwest. The weather was perfect, right around the freezing mark, and the DX was marginally interesting.

A few things of interest were heard. Radio Carupano-1110 (Venezuela), WIGS-1230 (Gouvernor, NY) and WBBW-1240 (Youngstown, OH) were all heard for the first time ... on their 2nd Harmonics. Carupano was heard once last year on its nominal frequency while I was living in Winnipeg. An unidentified French station was heard on 1789.8, which I guess must be the second harmonic of the Haitian station on 895. I can't recall the last time I heard any harmonics, aside from those of local stations.

More recently, WTIK-1310 (Durham NC) was heard in the car in suburban Oakville and Mississauga at 5:18 pm with c&w on January 11. I haven't heard this one in several years. 73.

Paul Swearingen - 2840 SE Illinois St. - Topeka, KS 66605-1427

I think I'll sneak a Musing in while Mike'n'Sue aren't looking. Not much DX'ing has done here, partly due to increasing noise which wasn't audible when I first moved in ... I suspect power line noise about 100 yards away and will check it out when I get time. Time? Most of my activities are overlapped nowadays. I did hear WRMR-850 u/KOA a few weeks ago, with ID @ 11 pm CST, never heard here before.

I'd like to urge all IRCA members reading this to strongly consider their two choices, between Topeka and Sacramento, before voting in an upcoming IRCA election to choose the IRCA 25th Anniversary Convention site. I am lining up more and more attractions for Topeka DXCon '89 and would like to be able to offer them to more DX'ers. For example, for those conventiongoers who do not drive to Topeka, I plan to be able to offer free bus passes to anywhere Topeka Transit runs, and I hope to be able to attract local radio personalities to at least the Saturday sessions. I have several historical presentations in mind but won't try to line people up until after the election. Also, a local antiques shop will bring in a collection of old radios ... and Topeka again will host "Railroad Days" during Labor Day weekend. The only two negatives are (1) that Forbes Field does not have direct flights in by a major airline (yet), but several shuttle services, on the ground and via air, offer quick connections to Topeka from KCI, and (2) a special committee will have to work out obvious problems connected with running the clubs' traditional auctions. I can guarantee that prices of almost everything in Topeka will be 5-20% cheaper than those in California, including room rates. Finally, I plan to offer special observances of IRCA's 25th Anniversary, which should be of interest to all DX'ers. 73.

Jim Renfrew - 61 Wilcox St. - Rochester, NY 14707

It must be about six years since I last mused. With recent issues thin on the DX info, I thought I would check in. I began DX'ing on BCB and SW when I built a cheap Heathkit set around 1968. Though I did spend some time on SW, I spent most of my listening time on BCB. My first exciting DX was WHLD-640 jumbling out of the whistling hets. It was a great moment when my friend Cliff Reno or I (I can't remember who) first heard about the NRC, and the initial mimeo newsletters were a great source of correct information. I was young enough

that I had to learn to DX under the covers with a flashlight and headphones after curfew. From Connecticut I heard about 650 stations and received quite a few QSLs (there're in a box on the shelf).

My family moved to Maryland in 1971 and I started all over again, but this time approaching DX more scientifically with Sunset charts, NRC logs, a Realistic DX-100 receiver, etc. I think I heard about 700 stations from Maryland in less than one year, before heading off for college. It wasn't until 1978 while in Rochester that I picked up interest again, and spent some serious time with BCB DX, hearing my first TAs, amassing many loggings of Latin American stations, sitting on 1580 khz at sunset, and hearing stations to the far west. Back in grad school in NYC from 1980 - 1983 was not a good time for radio, especially with the heavy interference where I lived on Manhattan. I'm now back in Rochester, where I have accumulated an HQ-150 and SM-1 antenna for BCB DX purposes. I've heard about 1160 stations from 40 states and 43 countries, and have verified about 175 of them or so. Recent deregulation of AM radio has really clogged up the dials here, and most recent logs have been call changes (which I count for no other reason than to give myself a sense of progress).

My great love - Foreign DX - has really dried up, so my attention has been shifted to SW DX since about 1984. The purchase of a Sony ICF-2010 has really enabled the SW interest to flourish. I am a member of NASWA, which has a fine monthly bulletin. This past summer I tried my hand at FM DX, and was delighted to hear Fort Lauderdale one sunny afternoon near Syracuse. I've also joined WIFDA, the source of another fine newsletter. I'm even closer to the FM antenna farm, so most FM DXing is done by the Sharp car radio as I drive around the city. I keep my interest in BCB DXing alive in one important way: when I visit my parents in Raleigh or my in-laws in San Diego, I work on new logs in those locations. I have about 400 heard in Raleigh and 200 in San Diego. This seems more satisfying to me than the road trip band scanning that seems to have become popular. It was quite a surprise to hear all three Radio Taino outlets while I was in San Diego two weeks ago, though no sign of any TPs. It's also interesting to DX only a mile or two north of the Mexican border.

I must say that I truly do miss the excellent research on Cuban stations provided by Ron Schatz. Neither the NRC Cuba list or the 1989 WRTH Cuba list seem accurate. I'm going to be in Tampa at the end of the month, and I'll see what I can hear on the Sony, and try to report my observations.

In all of the years that I have DXed, I've only met three other DXers personally: Cliff Reno from 8th grade, Jerry Bond, who invited me to his house in Rochester a few years back, and Jim Heikimer in the nearby village of Galedonia (I bought my equipment from him). It's been somewhat solitary, but very enjoyable. Fortunately only my wife knows enough about what I do to think that I should have my head examined!

Vic Melis- 501 Kleman Road, Gilbertsville, Pa. 19525

WFIL-560 is sold for just under \$7 million to a Phila area lawyer who owns 10 other stations. Present WFIL owner (WEAZ-FM) had asked \$9 million for the station after spending big bucks on TV spots, replacing the 3 self-supporting towers in fall 1987 and switching from Kahn to C-QUAM AM stereo. The new towers improved the western nighttime signal and eliminated a lot of the phase distortion on both day & night patterns. The new owner, Ragan Henry Broadcast Group, plans to drop the satellite oldies and change the format to talk, interview and information. One of the partners in the group who may do a show is ex-talk show host Mary Mason. Mason had tried to put a group of investors together to buy 950 Khz from WPEN if WPEN bought WFIL and moved to 560. That deal fell through last week and with WPEN staying on 950, they may go back to plans for a new nighttime tower site. The number of Philly oldies stations is shrinking fast. Until a few weeks ago there were 4. WIOQ (FM) switched to urban contemporary/Top 40 mix and when WFIL switches, there will be only 2 oldies stations left- WPCR-1540 and WOGL(FM). After over 6 months, 900 Khz (ex-WDVT) is no longer a silent frequency in Philadelphia. WURD ("Love 900", Word Radio" and "Digital 900") signed on 1/12/89 with gospel/religious talk and appears to be on 24 hrs. During the past months CHML could be heard well into the late morning drive period. In December it looked like the deal might fall through and the owner (classical WFLN-FM) announced plans to take it off the market and bring it back on 1/1/89 as WFLN-AM simulcast as it was before WDVT. Instead we got yet another gospel station. In late November WDAS-AM switched to gospel and much of their AM/FM staff was cutback following the continued decline of its FM ratings. Latest Arbitron ratings show KYW still #1 in morning drive and #4 overall but a full 1.5 share below a year ago. WPEN also made the top 10 and noted a similar loss in audience share. Top 40 WEGX(FM) is the new #1 overall, followed by WMMR.

Greetings all...Don Criqui, NBC's ace sportscaster, is dropping his role as sports sidekick to Don Imus on WFAN. He will continue his NBC duties...The Windy City's Jonathan Brandmeier has signed a four year contract with WLUP...In Boston WNEV-TV has signed an agreement to buy WHDH...Paul Anthony's Saturday evening Jazz Show on WGMS, in our nation's capital, has been given the ax, as the station's executives don't feel that Jazz and Classics are compatible...WMIN has dropped its satellite fed oldies format in favor of Transtar's AM ONLY syndicated fare...NewsRadio 88, WCBS, has added Ray Hoffman to its on air staff doing Business Reports...Al Matthews has joined the staff of WLAD. Not too much time for really sitting down for some serious dial twisting. The town is currently in the final stages of planning for the new middle school. I have met with the architects to provide for a communications room adjacent to my classroom in the new facility, complete with direct hatchway access to a platform on the roof to support all the antennas involved. Will have to start experimenting with remotely driven devices for BCB work, as the new construction will certainly hamper reception in the classroom. This will greatly enhance the communications in the classroom project that I have been involved in during the past twenty years. My only regret is that MAJOR Power Lines are located about 100 yards from the new school site. I can't wait to see what new adventures that will bring. So much for now.

Book Review

The National Radio Club's Antenna Pamphlets

Published by The National Radio Club, Publications Center, PO Box 164, Mannsville, NY 13661. Pamphlets 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 inches, \$3.50 each.

Low-band DXers are continually looking for the best antenna designs for pulling weak signals out of the mess of domestic stations. AM broadcast-band DXers face competition from the din of local 50-KW rock "n" roll stations; many have spent hours finding antenna designs that work for them. The National Radio Club (NRC) has published many of these ideas in a set of four pamphlets.

The NRC is a 50-plus year old broadcast-band DXer's club. Many NRC members are hams. The information presented in most of their technical pamphlets are not simple-minded presentations for non-technical readers. Some are quite technical and include a mathematical background to back up the verbiage. Here's a look at what's available.

The NRC Antenna Reference Manual—Vol 1

R. J. Edmunds, ed., 4th ed, 1982, 59 pages.

This volume is devoted mostly to air-core loops and detailed construction information on the NRC 2- and 4-foot FET Altazimuth loops. The 4-foot loop has impressive performance characteristics, especially its null depth.

The NRC Antenna Reference Manual—Vol 2

R. J. Edmunds, ed., 1982, 55 pages.

The discussion on air-core loops and loop preamplifiers continues from Vol 1. Information on phased Beverages and phased short-wire antennas is included, as is construction information on the phasing units, which should be easily adaptable for 160 to 80 meters.

Beverage and Longwire Antenna Theory and Design

M. J. Knitter, ed., 1983, 49 pages.

As is obvious from the title, the main theme of this pamphlet is the Beverage antenna (and the phased Beverage). Over 30 pages are devoted to a comprehensive discussion of the Beverage, its patterns, and angles of signal arrival. A discussion of the results achieved by using a good Beverage for AM band DXing completes the pamphlet.

Loop Antennas, Design and Theory

M. J. Knitter, ed., 1983, 62 pages.

This pamphlet covers air-core and ferrite-core loop antennas. The discussions include modifying loop directional patterns, multi-rod ferrite loops, using loops in skywave direction finding, problems encountered with homemade loops and their suggested solutions.

Two drawbacks of the pamphlets are the artwork and the print. The artwork is not professionally prepared and the graphics sometimes requires interpretation. Some of the print is small—I kept a magnifier handy for reading. For the price, however, you can't beat the information. If you're looking for antenna ideas, these inexpensive pamphlets are worth a glance.—Domenic M. Mallozzi, N1DM, 26 Carey Ave, Apt 8, Watertown, MA 02172

QEX -via Pete Kemp

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