

# DX News

Serving DXers since 1933



Volume 72, No. 9 - November 29, 2004 (ISSN 0737-1659)

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### CPC Test Calendar

WRIB	RI	1220	daily	0255-0305
WNTP	PA	990	12/11	0001-0130
WFIL	PA	560	1/8	0001-0130

*From the Publisher ...* The position of DDXD-West editor remains open; please e-mail the publisher soon with your application for the position. Coincidentally, DDXD-East simply did not make it through the Internet cyberjungle for this issue, in spite of Ginnie's return to duty. Worry not - continue sending loggings to Ginnie ... and thanks to Mike Brooker for stepping in and helping out with recent DDXD-East columns.

*WNTP/WFIL tests ...* René Tetro added some information as to the night pattern of WNTP in a recent reflector on the NRCDXAS reflector: "A cursory look at our night pattern on radio-locator.com will show why we are so rare in your area. When the current WNTP night pattern was designed in 1985, we were required under FCC and international rules to afford additional protection to CBW's nighttime contours. Rather than just aim a null at CBW, we had to minimize our signal at five points along their NIGHTTIME skywave contour. Under older international agreements during our WIBG days it was even worse when we could put virtually no signal at all over the Canadian border. Changes in those rules in the early 1980s allowed us to loosen our pattern to the north and north-west at night. It was that same rule change that allowed 990 to open up in Rochester."

### DXN Publishing Schedule, Volume 72

Iss.	Deadline	Pub. Date	Iss.	Deadline	Pub. Date
10.	Nov. 26	Dec. 6	21.	Feb. 18	Feb. 28
11.	Dec. 3	Dec. 13	22.	Feb. 25	Mar. 4
12.	Dec. 10	Dec. 20	23.	Mar. 11	Mar. 21
13.	Dec. 24	Jan. 3	24.	Mar. 25	April 4
14.	Dec. 31	Jan. 10	25.	April 8	April 18
15.	Jan. 7	Jan. 17	26.	May 6	May 16
16.	Jan. 14	Jan. 24	27.	June 3	June 13
17.	Jan. 21	Jan. 31	28.	July 1	July 11
18.	Jan. 28	Feb. 7	29.	Aug. 5	Aug. 15
19.	Feb. 4	Feb. 14	30.	Sept. 9	Sept. 19
20.	Feb. 11	Feb. 21			

### DX Time Machine

#### From the pages of DX News:

50 years ago ... from the November 27, 1954 DXN: John Hoogerheide, Madison, WI logged BBC-Wales-881 on 11/15, 0145-0400, and Charlie Conley, Lamoyne, PA heard BBC-Brookmans Park-908 on 11/16 at 0200. Bernie Duffy, Staten Island, NY, received a Zipp lighter along with his verie from WKMI-1360.

25 years ago ... from the from the November 26, 1979 DXN: John Clemmer, Peoria, IL reported receiving his best graveyard catch on 11-6 in KYNN-1490 Omaha, while looking for KZIA-1580 ... Steve Miller, Boston, MA, reported hearing two new graveyarders on his TRF on 11/4.

10 years ago ... from the November 28, 1994 DXN: Scott Fybush, Waltham, MA reported to DDXD-East with receptions on a 285-foot vertical antenna - the transmitting antenna of WJIB-740.

**What? You missed another short-notice DX test because you forgot to sign up for the NRC/DXAS online reflector? Proceed directly to [www.nrcdxas.org](http://www.nrcdxas.org) and follow the indicated links to join up. It's free!**

## What a Time-saver - the County Cross Reference

A complete list of counties, parishes, and similar political divisions in the U. S. and Canada. Two lists are included: alpha by county, and by state. Compiled by Bill Hale and designed and produced by Wayne and Joan Heinen. \$7.50 for members, \$10.95, non-member. Order "CCR" from the NRC Publications center; NY residents, please include sales tax.

# AM Switch

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

First off, an apology and retraction. In Issue 7 we reported that KYLW-1450 Lockwood, Montana and KNFL-1470 Tremonton, Utah were on the air. Wrong!! Our sources must have been smoking some of those funny cigarettes when those reports came down. John Johnson of Billings, Montana, of which Lockwood is a suburb, reports that KYLW hasn't even started construction. Also, he and Nancy drove through Tremonton in September and KNFL wasn't on, either. So, make the proper annotations in your new NRC AM Radio Log.

### CALL LETTER CHANGES

Old Call	New Call
790 WIST NC Thomasville	WFIK
950 KSNB MN St. Louis Park	KTNF

## WVMR

1570 AM

Dunmore, W. Va. 24934

### CPs ON THE AIR

620 KPOJ	OR	Portland - On the air with their upgrade to U4 25000/10000.
1020 KWIQ	WA	Moses Lake North - Is on with 2000 DA days and 440 nights non-DA.
1020 KYXE	WA	Union Gap - Now on with 4000/400 DA-D is on. Ex: Selah.
1380 KMUS	OK	Sperry - Now on with U4 7000/250 with new city-of-license. Ex: Muskogee.
1500 WTOP	DC	Washington - Now on with a slight modification to their night signal allowing for more signal off the backside (to the northwest) of the pattern.

### GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES

580 WTCM	MI	Traverse City - CP granted to increase day and night power levels to become U4 50000/1100.
1060 KXLX	WA	Airway Heights - CP to change city-of-license (ex: Newport) and facilities change to U2 10000/600.
1540 WADK	RI	Newport - CP granted to add night service as U2 1000/5000.

### APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES

690 KSLJ	ID	Blackfoot - Coordinate adjustment to N43-10-07 W112-22-10.
730 WSCC	SC	Charleston - Applies to decrease nighttime power to become U5 5200/83.
890 KWLX	ND	Lisbon - Applies to increase their power to become D1 1800/0.
1010 KBBW	TX	Waco-Marlin - Application covers the designation of Waco only as city-of-license.
1180 KYET	AZ	Williams - Application covers a decrease in their daytime power using a new "EH" antenna. The specifications for this antenna are at <a href="http://svartifoss2.fcc.gov/prod/cdbs/forms/prod/getattachment_exh.cgi?exhibit_id=255304">http://svartifoss2.fcc.gov/prod/cdbs/forms/prod/getattachment_exh.cgi?exhibit_id=255304</a> if you care to see it. If granted, KYET would become U1 6300/250.
1200 WPTK	FL	Pine Island Center - Applies to make changes in their day pattern.
1270 WNOG	FL	Naples - Application is to increase their nighttime power and make adjustments to the night pattern. If granted they would become U4 5000/5000.
1280 WDNT	TN	Dayton - Application covers an increase in daytime power and an adjustment to their coordinates. to N35-30-47 W85-00-10. If granted, they will become U1 2200/31.
1390 WEGP	ME	Presque Isle - Application covers an increase in day and night power levels along with an adjustment to their coordinates to N46-39-15 W68-03-00. If granted WEGP will become U2 50000/10000.
1440 KUHL	CA	Santa Maria - Coordinate adjustment to N34-58-48 W120-27-12.
1450 KVSI	ID	Montpelier - Application covers moving to a new transmitter site at N42-19-02 W111-19-20, while remaining U1 1000/1000.
1490 KRSN	NM	Los Alamos - Application covers a move to Santa Fe with U1 1000/1000.

**Expiring? Time to renew? Not sure when? Need to call or e-mail someone or join the listserv? Check the back page - it's all right there!**

1510 KSPA CA Ontario - Application is for U7 50000/1000 CH 10000.

### AMENDMENTS TO APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED

710 WEGG	NC	Rose Hill - Licensed for D1 250/0, WEGG has applied to increase their power to be D1 1000/0, then amended that application to be D1 2500/0. This amendment now asks for D1 2500/0 CH 1000.
1010 KIQI	CA	San Francisco - Licensed for U4 10000/500, KIQI had applied for U4 3500/500. This amendment now asks for U4 35000/15000.
1070 WNCT	NC	Greenville - Licensed for U4 10000/10000, WNCT has a number of applications and amendments pending for different powers and various patterns. This latest amendment is for U7 50000/8500 CH 50000.
1200 WRTO	IL	Chicago - Licensed for U4 10000/1000, WRTO has a pending application for U4 20000/4500 from a new 4-tower site. This amendment slightly changes the nighttime pattern parameters.
1380 KRKO	WA	Everett - Licensed for U2 5000/5000, KRKO has an application on file to increase their power levels to U2 27000/50000. This amendment now asks for U2 34000/50000.
1450 WMVG	GA	Milledgeville - Licensed for U1 1000/1000, WMVG had applied to decrease their power while increasing the height of their tower. This amendment increases the height even more. If approved they would become U1 550/550 from a 373' tower.
1460 WBCU	SC	Union - Licensed for U2 1000/1000, WBCU had applied to move to 820 kHz with U2 1700/80 in January of 2000, which was denied. Then in October of 2000 they amended that application to read U2 1700/93 with some antenna adjustments, which was rejected. Along the way they applied for U4 50000/500 on 820, which was denied. This latest application asks for D1 1000/0 on 690 kHz. Talk about persistence.
1540 KMPC	CA	Los Angeles - Licensed for U4 50000/10000, KMPC applied for U4 50000/40000 with two new patterns. This amendment scales back the nighttime power so as "not to conflict with Mexico" (exact wording from their application). The amendment asks for U4 50000/2900 with essentially the same night pattern, only smaller.
1600 WKEN	DE	Dover - Licensed for U4 5000/1000. WKEN had applied for U4 4000/110. This amendment now asks for U4 3900/10.
1600 WPDC	PA	Elizabethtown - Licensed for U1 500/79, WPDC lost their transmitter site to re-zoning, and now has applied for U1 1000/35 from a new transmitter site using a 75' Valcom fiberglass antenna. The height is restricted due to a zoning ordinance. This antenna was mentioned last Issue in the KZTY-620 item, and the application states: "... but little or no data is known about its vertical radiation characteristics at 1600 kHz. The Valcom antenna is of proprietary design which enhances radiation efficiency with short physical height."
1010 NEW	FL	Golden Gate - Application is for U4 1006/1006 (no kidding).
1210 NEW	MN	Pine River - Original application was for U1 1000/1000, but this amendment now asks for U2 6000/250.
1220 NEW	MI	Escanaba - Original application was for U4 500/1000, but an amendment has been filed for U4 2500/700.
1230 NEW	MN	Pine River - Original application was for U1 1000/1000, but an amendment has been filed for U2 6000/250 on 1210 kHz.
1240 NEW	NV	Beatty - Application is for U1 1000/1000.
1340 NEW	AK	Juneau - Original application was for U1 1000/1000, but this amendment now asks for U1 10000/3500 on 1330 kHz.
1340 NEW	CA	Bishop - Application is for U1 1000/1000.
1400 NEW	AZ	Seligman - Application was for U1 250/250.
1450 NEW	NV	Hawthorne - Application is for U1 1000/1000.
1490 NEW	UT	Santa Clara - Application is for U1 1000/1000.
1520 NEW	NV	Reno - Original application was for U4 2000/250, but an amendment has been filed for U4 5000/3000.
1520 NEW	WI	Howard - Original application was for U4 350/1750, but an amendment has been filed for U4 250/3000.

**APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES DISMISSED**

690	KRGS	CO	Rifle	- Application covered the construction of a new tower, and an increase in their power levels to U1 2300/27.
900	KALI	CA	West Covina	- KALI applied for U4 6000/79 from a new site.
930	KIUP	CO	Durango	- Application covered an increase in nighttime power to 5000 Watts.
1210	KPRZ	CA	San Marcos	- The application was for U4 20000/30000 with a city-of-license change to San Marcos-Poway.
1540	KGBC	TX	Galveston	- Application for U4 5000//250 has been dismissed. However, they still have a CP for U4 2500/250 on the books.

**PETITIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION**

1130	KTMR	TX	Edna	- Licensed for D3 10000/0, KTMR had applied to move to Bulverde, Texas (a San Antonio suburb) with D3 10000/0 but was turned down by the FCC. Now they are applying to move to a new site about 30 miles from the licensed location with the same power, and a pattern closely resembling that of the present set-up. Edna is retained as city-of-license. It appears they are still trying to cover San Antonio.
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**APPLICATIONS FOR ORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION PERMIT DISMISSED**

1180	NEW	FL	Pace	- Application was for U2 250/300.
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**LICENSE RENEWALS GRANTED**

1320	WFHR	WI	Wisconsin Rapids
1430	WFOB	OH	Fostoria

**CANADIAN NEWS**

The CRTC has given the CBC approval to replace its low power station CBXJ-860 in Jasper, Alberta with an FM station on 98.1 MHz with 259 Watts. The station relays CBX-740 Edmonton.

**HEAR AND THAR**

Reported to have returned to the airwaves this past week: KERB-600 Kermit, Texas with Radio Cristiana.

Art Burke of Leesburg, Florida reports: "My 25th edition of the radio log shows WRZN in Hernando, FL with operating hours 0600-2400. This morning (Nov 19,2004) they were going strong at 4 AM. Those in a good position to null out WGN can hear some nice, nostalgic music. Of course their 250 watts nighttime power level works quite well at my domicile, which is only about 30 miles away from them!" A DX-opportunity??

Due to travel plans, there will not be an AM Switch next issue (#10), but we'll be back with double coverage in Issue 11.

Thanks to Shawn Axelrod, Wayne Heinen, Deane McIntyre, and Jerry Starr for items this week.

**GRAVEYARD DX UPDATE**

<u>1240 kHz:</u>					<u>Miles</u>
WWWC	NC	Wilkesboro	Russ Edmunds	Blue Bell, PA	423
<u>1400 kHz:</u>					
WRCC	MI	Battle Creek	Russ Edmunds	Blue Bell, PA	537
<u>1450 kHz:</u>					
WLEC	OH	Sandusky	Russ Edmunds	Blue Bell, PA	399
<u>1490 kHz:</u>					
WGEZ	WI	Beloit	Russ Edmunds	Blue Bell, PA	732

**Flash Alert Postcard System**

Can't access the Internet to find out about last-minute DX tests? Join Les Rayburn's Flash Alert System to receive notice about late-notice tests and special events. Just send Les 10 or more self-addressed postcards, and he'll be sure to keep you up-to-date and even notify you when you're down to five cards. Send your cards to Les Rayburn - 100 Centerview Drive, Suite 11 - Birmingham, AL 35216-3748. It's almost as good as being wired!

**Domestic DX Digest**

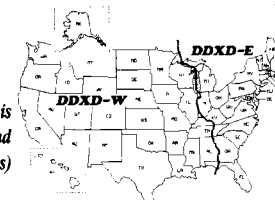
West: Harry Helms DDXDWest@yahoo.com

91 Augusta Dr - Wimberley, TX 78676-2516

East: Ginnie Lupi ginnie@nrcdxas.org

PO Box 3028 - Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-8001

(Division line is  
between East and  
Central time zones)



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

**DDXD-West****RANDOM STUFF**

- Hey, time is running out if you live in the west and want this column to continue! Seriously. . . . Paul doesn't have time to do this column after I step down, and no one has volunteered to take it over. Given the number of NRC members in the west, that's really depressing. If you live in the west, read this column each week, aren't a current NRC volunteer, and haven't offered to take it over, then don't complain if it vanishes.
- As we move toward the winter solstice, we're also getting into the time of the year when the D layer of the ionosphere can disappear and skywave propagation is possible in the daytime. If you have any locally clear channels above 1500 kHz, give a listen during the day. . . . you might be pleasantly surprised by what you hear.
- Your loggings are welcome here. Please submit items in the format you see below, including enough details to help your fellow NRCers log the station. Please use Eastern standard time for all times, regardless of your local time zone. I couldn't use some contributions this time because some details—like the time or call letters—were omitted, and in one case I tossed a bunch of loggings because they were in the local time of the reporter. C'mon gang; if you don't care enough to make the necessary time conversion, don't expect me to be any more motivated!

**REPORTERS.**

BW-OK	Bruce Winkelman, Tulsa. Drake R8, Quantum phaser, two 130-foot wires.
CR-IL	Christos Rigas, Wood Dale. Drake R8, Quantum QX Pro loop.
JH-AK	Jon Horen, Fairbanks. Drake R8B and 500 foot wire.
JJR-WI	John J. Rieger, South Milwaukee. Icom R-75, Kiwa loop, MFJ-959B tuner-preamp.
JV-KY	John Vervoort, Madisonville. Grundig Yacht Boy 400PE.
MS-MB	Morris Sorensen, Winnipeg. Drake R8, Quantum QX Pro loop, DX-392 portable.
SA-MB	Shawn Axelrod, Winnipwg. Icom R70, Drake R8, loops, longwires, DXing moxie.
WH-CO	Wayne "Mr. NRC Log" Heinen, Aurora. Drake R8B, N/W and E/W flag antennas, SuperPhaser II.
Ed.-TX	Your Editor, Wimberley. Sony ICF-2010 with Kiwa filters, Quantum loop.

**STATION CHANGES, LOG UPDATES, ETC.**

1050	KTBA	AZ	Tuba City. 11/16 1900. EE:REL format ending PSA with full ID mentioning serving the "Navajo Nation 24 hours a Day." Adjust your LOG. (WH-CO)
1370	KWTL	ND	Grand Forks. 11/18 1850. Good signals with EWTN Catholic radio programming. KUND has been off air and these folks have replaced them. NEW! (SA-MB)

**UNID's**

1260	????	??	?? 10/17 1900 The mystery logging at the top of the hour of "WJCG" was partially solved by Frank Merrill, who says that WJCG-88.9 Monee-Chicago is relayed by religious stations. Someone merely forgot to pull the plug and insert a local ID. Thanks, Frank!
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**REGULAR DX LOGGINGS (times in ELT)**

550	KBOW	MT	Butte. 11/4 2158. Fair w/Cougars BKB and 10 second full ID. (WH-CO)
550	KFYI	AZ	Phoenix. 11/4 2130. Local talk and spots. (WH-CO)
550	KFYR	ND	Bismarck. 11/5 2100. "North Dakota's news and information station since 1925, AM 5-50 KFYR Bismarck" and ABC News. (WH-CO)
550	KLIV	CO	Breen. 11/5 1900. REL music to full ID and religious program. (WH-CO)

550	KRAI	CO	Craig. 11/5 1500. Mixed with KFRM C&W music to full ID and CNN News. (WH-CO)
550	KTRS	MO	Saint Louis. 11/4 2125. "The Big One" and talk programs. (WH-CO)
580	KSAZ	AZ	Marana. 11/4 0000. NOS format to full ID and ABC News. (WH-CO)
580	KJMJ	LA	Alexandria. 11/5 0558-0600. Faded up with hymn. Full Radio Maria network ID and more REL music. First time for me. (WH-CO)
680	KNBR	CA	San Francisco. 11/14 0259 mixing with XELG and KKYX with call ID, "The Sports Leader" and "America's Favorite Sports Station" slogans. (BW-OK)
710	KMIA	AZ	Black Canyon City. 11/7 2130-2140. SS music call sign and "La Consentida" slogans. KNUS null. (WH-CO)
800	CKDR	ON	Dryden. 11/17 2020. Fair with local ads, mentions of Hwy. 17. One of my closest unheards. Tough frequency here with semi-local KFGO-790 and local CKJS-810 adjacent. Usually CHAB SK or CKLW ON dominate 800. Glad I finally got CKDR as they are scheduled to move to FM soon. (MS-MB)
830	CKKY	AB	Wainright. 11/17 2300. Poor to fair in WCCO null with country music, ID and "Key Country" slogan. Relog. (MS-MB)
940	KHLM	HI	Honolulu. 11/1 0625. Man shrieking about a mattress sale in Honolulu, then "the new KHLM" followed by country song. (JH-AK)
940	WMAC	GA	Macon. 11/3 2233. "Newstalk 9-40 WMAC." Fair, mixing with unID music format station. (JV-KY)
970	KIXL	TX	Del Valle. 11/1 0600. Faded in briefly with "Today's Talk 970 KIXL Del Valle-Austin." (WH-CO)
1020	KINF	NM	Roswell. 11/12 0000 mixing with the Cuban with NOS music, quick call ID into ABC news. (BW-OK)
1060	WKRE	NC	Monroe. 11/15 1834, good dominating frequency with "... diez sesenta ... Musical. ... " slogan, Mexican music. (CR-IL)
1190	WHMT	TN	Humboldt. 11/15 1859, fair with ID and into Sporting News. (CR-IL)
1220	KMVL	TX	Madisonville. 11/12 2342. Fair with local spots and NOS format. "Star 1220 KMVL" in KLVZ null. (WH-CO)
1230	KSIX	TX	Corpus Christi. 11/14 0100. Ending ESPN radio with call ID fair with Au conditions. (WH-CO)
1230	KPSA	NM	Roswell. 11/14 0300. Call sign ID in SS mixed with KOTS. Fair in Au conditions. (WH-CO)
1230	KOTS	NM	Deming. 11/14 0300. "Deming Country is AM 1230, KOTS, Deming, New Mexico" and AP News. (WH-CO)
1240	KIUL	KS	Garden City. 11/16 0659. Ending ESPN promo "Your home for Sean Hannity, KIUL, Garden City and KFLA, Scott City" to CBS News. Long chased this one! (WH-CO)
1270	WCGC	NC	Belmont. 11/7 1759. "12-70 WCGC Belmont-Charlotte-Gastonia." Apparently still on 10 kilowatt day power; good signal and dominating frequency. (JV-KY)
1380	KXCA	OK	Lawton. 11/12 2128. "ESPN Sports is KXCA AM 1380 Lawton" and more ESPN programming. (WH-CO)
1380	WWMI	FL	St. Petersburg. 11/13 0621. Poor with loads of local ads, Disney. (JJR-WI)
1400	KGVL	TX	Greenville. 11/12 0900. ToH ID in a break of semi-local KFTM. "Real Country is AM 1400 KGVL Greenville." New for me! (WH-CO)
1400	KTMC	OK	McAlester. 11/14 2000. Faded up with complete ID. New for me. (WH-CO)
1420	WIGG	MS	Wiggins. 11/12 0553. Poor but very clear "WXAB, WIGG, Wiggins, MS" and nothing else u/WJUB. NEW! (JJR-WI)
1440	KTNO	TX	University Park. 11/7 2124. Lot's of SS music (sounded REL) and "Radio Vida" slogans and no legal IDs noted over two ToHs. (WH-CO)
1450	KQYX	MO	Joplin. 11/8 0358-0400. Local spots to full ID. Nice catch at 582 miles! (WH-CO)
1450	KSEL	NM	Portales. 11/8 0858-0900. Local spots to full ID and ABC News. First time here. (WH-CO)
1490	KXLQ	IA	Indianola. 11/11 1900. Faded up with "Sports Radio 1490, KXLQ, Indianola" and ESPN programming. New for me. (WH-CO)
1490	KBUR	IA	Burlington. 11/11 1814. NOS format with quick ID, covered by KKAN. (WH-CO)
1490	KKAN	KS	Phillipsburg. 11/11 1816. KKAN & KQMA-FM ID, local spots, and weather. New for me. (WH-CO)

1500	KMXO	TX	Merkel. 11/13 1906. Cheating with SS:REL and call sign ID in SS. New for me. (WH-CO)
1560	KOCY	OK	Del City. 11/13 1828. "Radio Disney KOCY Del City - Oklahoma City" mixed with KZOQ. (WH-CO)
1560	KZQQ	TX	Abilene. 11/13 1830. NOS format "KZQQ AM 1560 Abilene" and local spots. (WH-CO)
1580	KOKB	OK	Blackwell. 11/6 1902. Full ID on the Sooners football network. (WH-CO)
1580	KRZX	TX	Waco. 11/6 2200. Full ID and Fox Sports. Call change from KRZI and no longer //KRZI-1660. (WH-CO)
1590	KDAV	TX	Lubbock. 11/13 2042. Loud in auroral conditions with real OLD time rock and roll. (WH-CO)
1600	WMQM	TN	Lakeland 11/13 1800. Stomping all over the frequency with preacher, nice call ID into more preaching/music by woman. 50 kilowatts ND really gets out into Oklahoma from Memphis! (BW-OK)
1640	WTNI	MS	Biloxi. 11/9 0300. Full ID to ABC news followed by local spots. First time here mixed with KFNy. (WH-CO)
1680	KAVT	CA	Fresno. 11/13 2200. Call ID by kid and usual "Radio Disney" stuff. (WH-CO)
1680	KRJO	LA	Monroe. 11/13 2135. "Rejoice," UC:GOS and some local PSAs. Loud in auroral conditions. (WH-CO)

## International DX Digest

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**Foreign DX Catches. Times are UTC; for ELT, subtract 5 hrs (summer: 4).**

Plenty of residual Latin American DX and logs, the result of November's classic auroral conditions. Only one aurora-assisted transatlantic log. ¡Qué diéxixima!

### Transatlantic DX

1530 **SAO TOME** VOA Pinheira NOV 18 0300 - Yankee Doodle marching band music, male announcer, "This is the Voice of America, Washington, DC, signing on." A bit more Yankee Doodle music followed, there was an additional *Voice of America* mention, and then news in English was read by a woman and a man. There was talk about "the on-going crisis in the Ivory Coast." Good clear signal, about S8 on peaks, well over WSAI (which was in the Flag antenna's design null) and a weak third station, either WVBF or Vatican. I haven't seen this one reported in a while and I know that it is sometimes assisted during, or just after, auroral activity. [Connelly-MA] NOV 18 0309 - Very clear behind WSAI with American English commentary by men. Noted parallel to 7290. But this is an interesting part of the band where ZNS-1 has recently been atop 1540 and where the only TA signal of any sort has been a weak 1521 het. When I heard São Tomé I began to look for Brazilians which are just across the ocean from that part of Africa but didn't find any. [Dangerfield-PA]

*Ben speaks:* Well, what can I say after almost two weeks of continuous reception from mostly Cubans with some Colombians, Venezuelans, Jamaicans and others thrown in? And no TAs, that is until 1530 VOA São Tomé made a brief appearance. Well, perhaps the "winds" are shifting. I did keep searching for other South Americans but had no luck. Not much in the Caribbean either although 1620 WDHP was dominant. I longingly recall those days when you could hear dozens of splits from those areas and Central America and when Brazil, Argentina, Ecuador, Peru, Surinam and even Guyana were fairly easy. So now I am hoping for a return to normality.

### Pan-American DX

570 **CUBA** CMDC *R.Relej*, Santa Clara NOV 12 0414 - Only heard the RR..... signature code sound of this station but heard it through KNRS, KLAC and KLIF. [Redding-AZ]

620 **CUBA** *R.Rebelda*, Colón/Moa NOV 11 2258 - Loud and clear way atop channel with news in Spanish parallel to 670 kHz. [DeLorenzo-MA]

650 **COLOMBIA** HJKH *Antena Dos*, Bogotá NOV 14 0401-0410 - Good and alone on channel with 1930s style female vocal in Spanish and ID, "RCN, Antena Dos." [DeLorenzo-MA]

660 **MEXICO** XEEY El Sauz AG NOV 15 0130 - Heard with a nice ID way over WFAN: "X doble EY, Radio Seis Sesenta, Grupo Radiofonico ZER." What had me stumped was the call letters,

the "Y" was a different sound, not "ee-gree-ay-ga" as I would have expected. [Renfrew-NY]  
 660 **MEXICO** XEDTL México DF NOV 15 0132 - Also with a nice ID as "Grupo IMER... XEDTL."  
 [Renfrew-NY]  
 680 **CUBA** *R.Progreso*, multiple sites NOV 14 0416 - Fair well under WRKO with female Spanish  
 ballad parallel to 640 and 660 kHz. [DeLorenzo-MA]  
 680 **MEXICO** XECN Irapuato GJTO NOV 9 1201 - Weak on recording with "en Irapuato XECN  
 AM... seis ochenta," possible frequency change (?) as XECN listed on 1080. Thanks to Dave  
 Gleason for his translation assistance! [Winkelman-OK]  
 680 **NICARAGUA** YNAM *R.La Primerísima*, Managua NOV 9 0459 - Woman with mentions of  
 Managua and Nicaragua, then very clear *R.La Primerísima* ID into Nicaraguan national an-  
 them. My first Nicaraguan log. [Winkelman-OK] NOV 10 1100 - Man with "es de Managua,  
 capital de la Republica de Nicaragua, en el corazón de América, Radio Primerísima." Some-  
 how well over my local blowtorch WPTF Raleigh, a real shocker! [Bailey-NC]  
 700 **JAMAICA** *RJR* Hague NOV 10 0115-0120 - Good and alone on channel with program on  
 local agriculture. [DeLorenzo-MA] NOV 12 1215 - Man with "Coming up with the early  
 morning report at 7:15." Then a woman singing "Weather report from Radio RJR." Into  
 weather with all metric numbers. Good signal with no sign of WLW on south Beverage.  
 [Bailey-NC]  
 720 **JAMAICA** *RJR* Innswood NOV 14 0427 - Good and alone on channel with reggae-style rap  
 music and male DJ. [DeLorenzo-MA]  
 750 **CUBA** *R.Progreso*, Trinidad NOV 14 0455-0501 - Loud and clear alone on the channel with  
 lively Spanish dance music and ID, "Radio Progreso cadena nacional." [DeLorenzo-MA]  
 750 **VENEZUELA** YVKS RCR Caracas NOV 19 0115 - Good; baseball play-by-play, terminology  
 like "la cuenta dos y dos" for a count of 2 and 2, "strike," and "¡se va! ¡se va!" with a long fly  
 ball, over *R.Progreso* Cuba. [Conti-NH]  
 760 **COLOMBIA** HJAJ RCN Barranquilla NOV 14 0300 - Female and male announcers in Span-  
 ish along with Spanish music. Decent signal that was good at times. "Radio Cadena Nacional."  
 [New-GA]  
 760 **MEXICO** XEES Chihuahua, Chih NOV 12 0435 - Full ID then a really boring and soft  
 spoken man and woman talking. KFMB completely wiped out by auroral conditions. Primera  
 vez! Nueva! [Redding-AZ]  
 770 **CUBA** *R.Rebelde*, unknown location NOV 16 2327 - Thanks to several tips on the NRC-AM  
 e-mail list I found this on my first look, parallel 5025 shortwave. I wonder where it's located?  
 [Renfrew-NY] The latest reference I could find for Cuba on this frequency is in the 1980  
 WRTH which lists CMKB Las Mercedes.  
 790 **CUBA** *R.Reloj*, Pinar del Río NOV 19 0105 - Fair; news, time checks, etc., over/under WSKO  
*The Score AM and FM*. [Conti-NH]  
 820 **CUBA** *R.Reloj*, unknown location NOV 10 0149 - Fair atop channel with usual format of  
 news, syncopated clock, time checks and IDs every minute including "RR" in Morse Code.  
 Also noted on 1020 kHz. [DeLorenzo-MA]  
 850 **MEXICO** XEM *Renacimiento 850*, Chihuahua NOV 15 0204 - Ending female vocal, brief  
 announcement by woman, then full ID by man: "Estamos escuchando XEM, Renacimiento  
 850, con cinco mil wats de potencia, desde... Boulevard (Mala)guana 104... en Chihuahua...  
 XEM, Renacimiento 850." *Renacimiento* translates rebirth, revival or renaissance (thanks to  
 Mike Westfall). After hearing same announcement block at NOV 12 2355 loud and clear in  
 Springfield, Mo., that I had heard at NOV 12 0055 in Krum, I luckily found weak to moderate  
 signal in KOA null for part of full ID. This actually is not a new log for me, having identified  
 XEM in its previous persona as *Radio Éxitos*. [Callarman-TX]  
 860 **PANAMA** *R.Reforma*, Chitré NOV 19 0030 - Fair to good; many *R.Reforma* IDs in a long ad  
 string with mentions of Panama, romantic vocals, at 0052 "siete cincuenta y dos" UTC-5 time  
 check, more romantic vocals, over/under *R.Reloj* Cuba. [Conti-NH]  
 870 **CUBA** *R.Rebelde*, Sancti Spiritus NOV 16 1000 - Good atop channel with ID following Span-  
 ish folk vocal. Heard on GE Superadio while shaving before work. [DeLorenzo-MA] One  
 might say that you caught it in the nick of time. Ouch!  
 880 **MEXICO** unID NOV 16 0104 - Heard tail-end of Mexican national anthem as I tuned in.  
 Perhaps Los Mochis, which has been heard here before. [Renfrew-NY]  
 940 **COLOMBIA** HJTL RCN Cúcuta NOV 14 2314-2325 - Presumed the one with ID, "RCN... de  
 Colombia" and news in Spanish by two excited male announcers. Over second LA believed to be  
 WIPR San Juan with no trace of usual dominant *940 News* CINW Montreal. [DeLorenzo-MA]  
 940 **MEXICO** XEQ *Bésame 940*, México DF NOV 15 2254 - Strong signal, using "Bésame" (kiss  
 me!) slogan. [Renfrew-NY]

960 **MEXICO** XEFAMA Cd. Camargo CHIH NOV 5 0500 - Dominating frequency with lots of  
 call letter IDs, "La Fama" slogans. [Winkelman-OK]  
 980 **COLOMBIA** HJES RCN Cali NOV 13 0511-0529 - Loud and clear over WCAP groundwave  
 with "RCN" IDs, Spanish vocals, phone calls, parallel to 1000 kHz. [DeLorenzo-MA]  
 1000 **BRAZIL** *R.Record*, São Paulo NOV 13 0415-0428 - Strong battling with HJAQ with Christian  
 program in Portuguese. Thanks to Rocco Cotroneo in Brazil for confirming this reception by  
 listening to my audio clips! [DeLorenzo-MA]  
 1000 **COLOMBIA** HJAJ RCN Cartagena NOV 13 0429-0435 - Loud over Brazilian with talk  
 show, "RCN" IDs, several ads including one for "Bank Colombia." [DeLorenzo-MA]  
 1000 **MEXICO** XEOY *R.Mil*, México NOV 7 1106 - Man with "Radio Mil" out of Spanish lan-  
 guage ballads. Good under WMVP's sports chatter. [Bailey-NC]  
 1020 **CUBA** *R.Reloj*, unknown location NOV 12 0449 - Dominant with time pips, man in pre-  
 sumed news and "RR" in Morse every minute. [Winkelman-OK] NOV 15 0312 - The usual  
 program, very strong on this auroral night. [Renfrew-NY]  
 1070.04 unID NOV 15 - Spanish preacher. Anyone recognize this offset? [Renfrew-NY]  
 1090 **MEXICO** XEAU Monterrey NL NOV 12 4 0901 - Nice instrumental music into AM-FM ID  
 (not sure of FM call) with clear XEAU ID and "La Más Buena" slogan. [Winkelman-OK]  
 1090 **MEXICO** XEMCA Tampico TAMA NOV 12 1201 - Strong instrumental Mexican national  
 anthem suddenly on top of XEAU, 1204 solid XEMCA ID in sign-on announcement.  
 [Winkelman-OK]  
 1130 unID NOV 15 - Possibly two stations here. One was a man speaking in UK-accented En-  
 glish. When I checked back Spanish. The Spanish station used several "doorbell"-like bells  
 during time checks. I was also hearing similar bells on 1200. During one ad block I heard  
 Maturin, Santa Barbara and San Francisco mentioned. I'm guessing *Radio Ideal*, which I've  
 heard before, although there are two other possibilities. [Renfrew-NY]  
 1290 **VENEZUELA** *R.Puerto Cabello*, Puerto Cabello NOV 15 0240 - A nice ID rose up as I crossed  
 this regional frequency looking for something just like this, and I was fortunate that the re-  
 corder was on! [Renfrew-NY]  
 1420 **MEXICO** XEF Cd. Juárez CHIH NOV 7 0458-0500 - Dominating frequency with lots of "La  
 Deportiva" slogans and finally at 0500 "La Deportiva XEF" ID. [Winkelman-OK]  
 1420 **MEXICO** XEH Monterrey NL NOV 7 0802 - Clear call letter ID popped up over XEF in a real  
 jumble of domestics and Spanish language stations. [Winkelman-OK]  
 1450 **MEXICO** XERDO Matamoros TAMA NOV 6 0801 - Call letter ID, "La Radio tatorce  
 cincuenta" and mentions of Matamoros, heard bits and pieces of this one on both 0600 and  
 0700 top of the hour recordings but it all came together at 0800. Thanks to John Callarman for  
 the heads up on this one. My first XE on a US graveyard frequency! [Winkelman-OK]  
 1540 **BAHAMAS** ZNS1 Nassau NOV 12 2245 - Gospel music, urban and do-wop, male an-  
 nouncer was taking calls, requests and dedications from listeners. Good signal most of the  
 time. "The National Voice of the Bahamas." [New-GA]  
 1570 **MEXICO** XERF Cd. Acuña NOV 15 0329 - Several mentions of Coahuila, so XERF very  
 likely. [Renfrew-NY]

*Marc speaks:* Really fantastic auroral conditions noted November 9 at least through November 16.  
 Many channels have had three Latin American signals fighting for dominance - at times making iden-  
 tification difficult. The highlight here was 1000 Brazil on November 13.

#### Contributors

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 John Callarman KA9SPA, Krum TX. <JohnCallarman@msn.com>  
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# Domestic DX Achievements

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Domestic DX totals listed periodically in different categories

Name and location	Yr	Last Upd	TDH	TDV	PH	SH	DCH	SV	PV	DCV	TDI	ST	PT	DCT
Name and location	Yr	Last Upd	TDH	TDV	PH	SH	DCH	SV	PV	DCV	TDI	ST	PT	DCT
Geary, Kermit-e PA	26	7/01	5939	5448	10	50	✓	50	10	✓	2768	49	10	✓
Steele, Sid-e IL	31	7/98	3450	2986	10	49	✓	49	10	✓	0	0	0	0
Krejny, Ed-nr Cleveland, OH	50	11/96	3265	2729	10	49	✓	49	10	✓	0	0	0	0
Falconer, Jeff-Clinton, ON	69	7/00	2799	1070	10	49	✓	49	10	✓	0	0	0	0
Francis, Steve-nr Knoxville, TN	70	2/00	2687	37	8	48	✓	36	0	✓	315	45	3	
Pimper, Dennis-NE, UT	68	12/84	2447	425	7	47		45	6		651	40	5	
Wesolowski, Ernie-Omaha, NE	58	1/04	2321	1966	9	49	✓	49	9	✓	0	0	0	0
Wilkins, John-Denver/Des Moines	62	3/00	2250	1931	7	45	✓	45	7	✓	290	35	0	
Kureth, Joe-Uniointown, MD	61	1/00	2162	342	10	46	✓	41	7	✓	0	0	0	
Starr, Jerry-Youngstown, OH	54	1/86	2159	1610	10	50	✓	50	10	✓	1055	50	10	✓
Whatmough, Dave-Hamilton, ONT	51	1/00	2061	1030	10	49	✓	49	10	✓	0	0	0	0
Axeirod, Shawn M.-s MAN	86	2/03	2005	0	10	50	✓	0	0	✓	0	0	0	0
Edmunds, R. J.-n NJ/e PA	62	9/99	2001	263	9	47	✓	42	6	✓	806	41	8	✓
Fela, Joseph-cent. NJ	61	10/78	1861	1045	10	49	✓	48	9	✓	400	40	7	✓
Chatterton, Ken-n NY	45	11/78	1845	1101	10	50	✓	50	10	✓	0	0	0	0
Forth, Karl-vic Chicago, IL	70	11/78	1771	1088	10	48	✓	48	10	✓	1077	48	10	✓
Renfrew, Jim-Rochester, NY	76	3/03	1709	449	8	44	✓	42	10	✓	68	27	5	
Heinen, Wayne-NY/CO	64	11/03	1646	1565	9	49	✓	49	10	✓	30	14	0	✓
Jeter, Karl-Atlanta, GA	69	3/84	1574	1193	6	44	✓	44	6	✓	0	0	0	0
Malicky, John-Pittsburgh, PA	70	11/87	1461	902	7	40	✓	38	7	✓	1184	40	6	✓
Bailey, Ron-Shelby, NC	92	1/03	1428	4	5	37	✓	4	0		0	0	0	0
Musco, Ron-nr Hartford, CT	62	2/03	1391	1262	9	47	✓	47	9	✓	108	28	3	
Hayes, Harry J.-ne PA	70	7/98	1354	185	9	41	✓	30	3		641	39	9	✓
Arruda, Ray-nr Boston, MA	63	6/99	1292	1150	9	47	✓	47	9	✓	0	0	0	0
Wolfsh, Niel-Toronto, ONT	78	2/93	1285	493	10	43	✓	43	10	✓	402	39	6	
Schmidt, Dave-se PA/n DE	65	11/79	1250	1006	8	48		48	8		400	40	4	
DeLorenzo, Marc-e MA	62	9/00	1172	0	9	45	✓	0	0		0	0	0	0
Onyschuk, Ken-Homewood, IL	67	8/03	1060	16	6	43	✓	13	0		0	0	0	0
Anderson, Roger-Arlington, MD	38	1/02	1017	1017	9	48		48	9	✓	0	0	0	0
Foxworth, Robert-Long Island, NY	57	11/78	1000	270	10	49	✓	48	7	✓	400	44	9	✓
Harrison, Bob-n NJ	82	6/98	996	772	7	36	✓	36	7	✓	0	0	0	0
White, Thomas-nr Washington, DC	68	1/92	970	243	7	39	✓	38	7	✓	0	0	0	0
Truax, Dick- vic. Louisville, KY	72	12/78	935	20	6	46	✓	17	3		120	35	5	✓
Sampson, John-Omaha, NE	54	12/78	912	912	6	45	✓	45	6	✓	0	0	0	0
Hardison, Greg-Atlanta, GA	64	11/78	900	42	6	36		19	5		0	0	0	0
Taylor, Pete-Durham, NC	52	3/00	891	208	6	40	✓	38	6	✓	0	0	0	0
Kureth, Joe-Southern Pines, NC	63	6/71	878	92	7	38		26	2	✓	0	0	0	0
Rigas, Christos-vic Chicago, IL	81	3/98	862	382	7	46	✓	44	6	✓	0	0	0	0
Holland, George Jr., vic. Albany, NY	31	11/85	828	828	9	49	✓	49	9	✓	0	0	0	0
Smolarek, Bob n NJ	82	6/02	817	7	5	36	✓	7	0		78	16	5	
Wolfsh, Niel-Winnipeg, MAN	85	2/93	813	25	9	37		10	4		113	10	4	
Wallace, Jim-Columbus, OH	69	10/78	795	137	7	41	✓	36	3	✓	0	0	0	0
Bond, Jerry-Rochester, NY	62	10/78	785	0	8	43	✓	0	0		50	10	2	
Crabill, Perry- VA	90	1/04	779	0	3	35	✓	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hardy, Nancy-coastal WA	69	12/84	778	3	5	40		2	0		0	0	0	0
Ponder, Stephen-Shreveport, LA	75	8/89	769	721	5	39	✓	39	5	✓	10	4	4	
Swearingen, Paul-e KS	75	11/04	760	2	7	44	✓	2	0		747	44	7	✓
Reed, John-Ponca City, OK	95	1/03	656	0	6	40		0	0		0	0	0	0
Winkeiman, Bruce-Tulsa, OK	79	3/04	601	0	5	36		0	0		0	0	0	0
Edmunds, R. J.-Syracuse, NY	64	9/99	533	75	9	45	✓	31	5	✓	0	0	0	0
Boersma, Philip-w MI	73	10/78	520	50	6	41		24	3		0	0	0	0
Mount, Paul-ne NJ	73	2/86	489	224	7	36	✓	33	6	✓	199	26	5	✓
Taylor, Pete-Tacoma, WA	81	3/00	468	70	3	33		14	7		399	33	0	
Sampson, John-Winston-Salem, NC	68	10/78	450	450	1	30	✓	30	1		0	0	0	0
Taylor, Pete-San Francisco	58	3/00	450	329	7	32		31	7		70	6	1	
Tudenham, John-Joplin, MO	90	10/97	444	0	5	36		0	0		0	0	0	0
Mount, Paul-se OH	78	2/86	390	3	3	36	✓	3	0		60	25	1	
Alves, Paul H.-nr Boston, MA	48	2/99	352	145	6	32	✓	25	5	✓	0	0	0	0
Sampson, John-Hutchinson, MN	60	10/78	336	336	6	42		42	6		0	0	0	0
Houdek, Gary-n KS	75	1/81	294	31	3	34		21	1		0	0	0	0
Vervoort, John-Brooklyn, NY	00	1/04	270	4	5	31	✓	4	0		25	9	2	✓
Sampson, John-Cupertino, CA	66	10/78	258	258	3	17		17	3		0	0	0	0
Karchevski, Bob-San Francisco, CA	69	10/78	249	198	5	36		36	5		197	35	5	

Taylor, Pete-Coral Gables, FL	45	3/00	221	132	3	29	✓	30	2	✓	0	0	0	0
Woods, Jack-w OR	74	2/81	194	25	4	26		18	0		0	0	0	0
Sampson, John-New York, NY	65	12/78	181	181	6	33	✓	33	6	✓	0	0	0	0
Edmunds, R. J.-ne ME	94	9/99	172	0	6	20		0	0		0	0	0	0
Vervoort, John-Murray, KY	03	1/04	152	0	2	29	✓	0	0		7	7	0	
Thompson, Blaine-Toledo, OH	03	02/03	137	0	2	22		0	0		0	0	0	0
Vervoort, John-Bronx, NY	03	4/04	137	0	5	21	✓	0	0		0	0	0	0
DeLaurere, Harley-Hendricks, WV	55	10/78	59	59	10	48	✓	48	10	✓	0	0	0	0

**Legend:**  
 ✓ District of Columbia heard, taped, and/or veried  
 TDH, TDT, TDV Total Domestic Heard, Taped, Verified  
 SH, ST, SV States Heard, Taped, Verified  
 PH, PT, PV Provinces Heard, Taped, Verified

Thanks to John Vervoort for an update. We hope to see YOUR name and updated listings the next time around. Please?

This column is arranged by "Total Domestic Heard" and then "Total Veries" as the tiebreaker, and we'll run various priorities at different times. Domestic of course include the contiguous 48 states and Canada; Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, etc., are counted as foreigners. We'll only delete listings of those who are no longer NRC members, so should you drop out and rejoin, you'll need to resubmit your totals. How about making it a priority for next time of filling in the blanks above, at least in the year started and last update column? Some of the listings are estimates, and that's just fine, but don't forget to update accurately when you can. Please join us -73.

## Contesting, a hobby unto itself

Ron Bailey AA4S

Wayne Heinen NØPOH

**WH** - Contesting and Contests are part of the NRC History that I remember, both when I first joined the NRC and in looking over many old issues of DX NEWS. Contesting is one way to provide a spark to those who may have had their interest in any portion of the Radio Hobby wane; it is a way to measure your expertise against your peers and measure your improvement as a DX'er and contester from year to year.

I learned a lot of contesting from my late father (Bill W2SIC) ... mostly on the VHF bands and Field Day when I was a kid, and helping at various locations that he contested from. After I became a ham and started contesting myself on VHF, I began to compete primarily with myself. I didn't have the Real Estate or resources to build the kind of station that would consistently win top honors, but I did have resources to improve on what I could afford and what zoning would allow me to erect!

Contesting is not only antennas and receivers. It is an attitude, a strategy and a desire to improve on what you can instead of dwelling on what you can't.

**RB** - One thing which helps me is that I have been an avid amateur radio contester for almost 40 years. Listening is one of the things I do best! But I knew that if I were going to compete against some of our "Big Guns" should they decide to enter, I would have to formulate a battle plan. Here are some tips for my fellow contesters even though they may help them to beat me!

To win, one must first generate a large base of "contacts" (easy stations at a high rate per hour, for example) then augment this base with "multipliers" to build your score. In our case the "Base" would consist of "Daytimers", "Blowtorches", and loud Critical Hour stations. Multipliers would be the 5-point "Graveyarders" and 3-point "Regionals".

I calculated that if I logged one station on each of 118 frequencies I could score 234 points. My first goal was to do this once then do it again (468 points). Along the way, my secondary objective was to have logged all of my 143 "Daytimers". As it turns out I can no longer hear some of these, but some others are turning up (sunspot cycle variation?). The key here was to set my alarm for 2 minutes before each hour while I was working around the house then hit the dials until about 6 or 7 minutes after the hour.

**WH** - A similar technique was used at my location, but I don't have Ron's luxury of being retired (yet, that is!). With my trustee copy of Quick Recorder and WindowsXP scheduler, I tape the top of the hour around the clock. These are transported to work on a flash drive and reviewed at my desk. Some coworkers listed to their music CD's, I have my DX files!

**RB** - In the final stages of the contest I will be concentrating on logging what I can of my "Graveyarders" and "Regionals" to build my point total. Here the phasing unit will come into play. I started by putting my south beverage as antenna #2 and phasing the other 6 beverages against it. Later on, I will be using other combinations.

**WH** - I use a variation on Ron's theme, especially for overnight and Critical Hour taping. I will DX a frequency with the Loop oriented in one direction and then the next day DX the same frequency with

12  
the Loop oriented in a different direction, the direction is dependent on the known targets and taping time. The antenna used might be the E/W Flag, N/S Flag or the box loop.

**RB** - I feel you need to use Critical Hours to DX the Graveyard frequencies. If you wait until too late in the evening, these just become a jumble and you will be lucky to be able to hear any IDs at all. I think it best to DX to the east early - before you start to get propagation from the west. By the same token, DX to the west in the morning as you are losing propagation to the east.

I keep a laptop next to me running GeoClock<sup>®</sup> software showing a map of the United States. This allows me to follow the gray line across the country. Also, pay attention to the curvature of the gray line in addition to sunrise/sunset times. For example, I just had good luck logging three stations to the northwest (KY & WV) on 1230 and 1240 before 2200 UTC on 29 October. They had slipped into their critical hours and became audible before stations to the southwest did. My sunset that day was 2235 UTC.

Oh, by the way, I keep all my logs (and my wristwatch) in UTC. My calendars have my LSS and LSR times marked on them for every day of the year (mainly for 160 and 80 meter ham band DXing purposes but it acts a guide for Medium Wave purposes too).

Using the R8A I turn off the AGC, set the volume control to about 10:00 o'clock, and rock the RF gain to adjust the signal to a comfortable level. I listen using either the LSB or USB mode. In this way I can minimize splatter from a strong adjacent channel by choosing the sideband furthest from it then by adjusting the Pass band Tuning control for best intelligibility (this may vary depending upon an announcer's voice characteristics). The notch control and my DSP-9 are effective in eliminating heterodynes from stations who are slightly off frequency.

**WH** - I am just now beginning some experiments with an MFJ-784B Tunable DSP filter more on these experiments as they progress.

**RB** - I keep a list of phone number Area Codes handy for reference whenever I hear a number which is not of the toll-free variety. The map showing my beverage patterns is also close by.

One of the fun things about essentially starting over is being able to log stations 2 or 3 at a time by quickly toggling the R8A between VFO's A and B while, at the same time, switching among the 7 beverages. Timing is critical here as I have to anticipate when an ad or a song is going to end and the station will ID. Sometimes you just have to get lucky!

The biggest reward is that I have been able to log an unbelievable 40 new ones to date bringing my domestic total to 1485 and my overall total (not counting TAs) to 1543. I've also logged 29 call sign changes.

**WH** - I have started a "Collection" of digital recorded ID's. Adding to this collection, as well as to my logbook, has been a nice reward. Last season I added numerous stations and call changes to my log, and this season I have already added another dozen. The NRC contest is not the only contest that I am involved in this year. You'll note entries from Chris Knight and John Wilkins in the standings; the three of us have a separate local contest running with a completely different set of rules and scoring.

If you haven't entered the NRC contest, I hope you will consider joining us for the remainder of this contest and participate in years to come.

### *It may not be perfect ...*

but the NRC AM Log is, simply, the best there is because of your contributions. Why not make the next edition even better? Send all corrections and changes to

Wayne Heinen - 4131 S. Andes Way - Aurora, CO 80013-3831, or [amradiolog@nrcdxas.org](mailto:amradiolog@nrcdxas.org). Thanks!



All Radio, a supplement to the DX Audio Service, replaces the After Dark series. Now available on two C-100 tapes, you'll find an interview with Dave Graupner, CEO of TM/ Century, about the radio and TV jingle business ... John Bowker with an article on how Clear Channel Radio's competition are starting to copy what they do ... Ken Onyschuk with an article about jazz radio in Chicago ... John Malicky giving us a tour of 540-CBEF (CBC French) in Windsor Ontario ... Mark Durenberger telling about some CBS Milestones ... John Bowker on about FCC rules and regulations ... Fred Vobbe talking about D.R.M. ... A story about a group of people that are trying to get ads pulled out of the Russ Limbaugh show ... From N.P.R., a piece on the consolidation of radio and old time radio ... How Del Rio, Texas, is proposing to give Wolfman Jack a tribute with a large statue ... Fred Vobbe with two stories on EAS fines and regulations, and finally, on the entire side second side of tape 2, Fred talks with Leonard Kahn, of Kahn Communications about digital MW radio. Order Item ART-1. U.S.A Price \$5.00; Canada \$7.00; Overseas \$9.00. Order from NRC Publications - Box 164 - Mannsville, NY 13661. NY orders, please add sales tax.

# Musings

## of the Members

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

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Scranton, PA 18505-0111

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

Here is the NRC Column which asks the question, why haven't they done a movie on the exciting things that happen to a broadcast band DXer? When sending your items in (keyword: SENDING), please keep them radio- and DX-related, and you'll see it here, in this very column, immediately if not sooner! Here we go:

**Gerry Thomas - 3635 Chastain Way - Pensacola, FL 32504 - [radioplus@bellsouth.net](mailto:radioplus@bellsouth.net)**

Greetings from Pensacola, Florida, where God's wrath has hit us squarely in the face. As some of you may know, Pensacola was savagely hit by Hurricane Ivan in several weeks ago resulting in catastrophic damage to the area. My family and I survived fine, but our property, including the Radio Plus+ facilities, suffered damages in excess of \$10,000. Every external antenna at Radio Plus+ was destroyed as well as some of the RF testing equipment; some components also suffered water damage. The towers of every radio station in town (with the exception of WUWF-FM) were downed by the storm, as were the facilities of the two local television stations. The local police and other public service organizations had to abandon their trunking and repeater systems (which were destroyed) and had very limited comms with their point-to-point equipment. Of course, all power to the city was also out all of which provided a rare opportunity for DX. Unfortunately, the situation was such that very little time was spent at the dials ... somehow the tragedy of the circumstances didn't really lend itself to hobby pursuits. Life is now approaching normalcy for much of the population, but the recovery is far from over. Hundreds of businesses and residences were totally destroyed, and numerous apartment complexes and condos have been condemned. Among the businesses that were destroyed were my local suppliers of plexiglass loop housings and screenprinting. Unfortunately, the screenprinter had a run of loop cabinets to screen print in his building when it collapsed; I am unaware of where those cabinets now are or their condition. Both business owners have decided not to rebuild and are now out of business. This has resulted in an additional delay in the resumption of Quantum Loop sales; I'm hoping to begin shipping loops again by late November (there is a waiting list, however) provided I can get more cabinets in and find a new screenprinter. The only major product I am presently shipping is the Quantum Phaser; details are available at [www.dxttools.com](http://www.dxttools.com). On the local scene, a new AM station is now on the air; it's WNRP-1620, ID's as "AM 16-20", and its slogan is "Classic Country." Some nights it broadcasts Pensacola Ice Pilots hockey games. I hope this finds you all in good health and that you enjoy some great DX sessions. I also deeply appreciate your continued support of Radio Plus+ products and your understanding during these challenging times. 73...Gerry


**Harry Schools - 2511 S 20th Street, 3rd Floor - Philadelphia, PA 19145**

I settled into my new (temporary) residence in early August and set up my vintage Lafayette LR-1515 AM/FM stereo receiver as a temporary listening post until I can decide on a more suitable receiver and antenna system. As one who has been away from the hobby for 30 years, I am amazed at how things have changed. In early November, I strapped myself into the pilot's seat and took part in a few day/eveing marathon DX sessions to reorient myself to the AM band and to refamiliarize myself with call signs, frequencies and signal strengths. On the positive side, it has been a pleasure to hear old favorites such as WWL, WSM, WBT and the like. However, I was taken back by the number of stations that are broadcasting programs which are part of national networks, such as Radio Disney, ESPN and the syndicated talk shows. At times, I found it difficult to find a station that used a real DJ or one that has "actual" local programming. Now I can understand why small communities and neighborhoods are pushing the FCC to provide licenses for low-power operations where their listeners would be better served. The lack of Canadians came as a surprise. I asked a fellow ham operator, who is a casual BCB DXer, about this, and he informed me that many of the Canadians I use to hear regularly many years ago have either shut down or have gone to the FM band. Another shocker was the low number of stations occupying the expanded band above 1600 khz. I checked the latest AM log and counted only 55 stations assigned to the 11 new frequencies. Many of them are carrying the syndicated network programming. Wasn't the purpose of the expanded AM band to provide spectrum availability to smaller markets where they could provide local programming? What a terrible waste of frequency space. In closing, I haven't begun my quest for verifications. Others tell me that this aspect of the hobby has changed as well with fewer stations sending out verifications due to budget restraints and/or staff cuts. As they say, we shall see. 73

Dave Schmidt - P O Box 3111 - Scranton, PA 18505-0111

Harry brought up some interesting points on how things have changed; if anyone else would like to comment, please send them along. I feel the verification game is still a challenge, as it always was in the past. Many years ago, I had sent report after report to WARM-590 and could never get a verification from them. Finally, I started sending reports to the program director, news director, anyone but the CE. Finally, after about 12 tries, I got a letter from the secretary saying that she had forwarded my reports to the CE and she couldn't figure out why he wouldn't answer, but "it appears you did hear our station." Bingo! That was counted as a verie! Later on, when I was working for Citidel and was actually taking care of WARM, the guy who never answered the reports ending up working part time for me! Yes, he did get an earfull (I asked him for my stamps back too). As I explained to Nolan Stephany at the convention this year, that was part of the story behind the "verie magnet", among others. OK, this is all we received through Friday 11/19; how come YOU haven't sent something in? Doctors' excuses will be requested in the future. Let's hear from you!

*Dave*



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**18th Annual Winter SWL Fest**  
 Sponsored by **NASA**

March 11-12, 2005  
 Best Western—The Inn at Towamencin  
 (formerly Holiday Inn).  
 Sumneytown Pike, Kulpsville, Penna.

Plan to attend your favorite forums Friday and Saturday. Enjoy meeting with your friends in the Hospitality Room. Bring radio related items for the swap meet or to donate for the Silent Auction. Check out your friends' receivers, bring one of your own for others to try!  
 No frills; just shortwave, longwave, mediumwave, pirates, and scanning. Once again you will enjoy the camaraderie of your hobby friends.

Please note, there is an incentive for you to pre-register, as prices are more expensive for those who wait. Registration options are also more flexible than in the past, with new one-day and student registrations. **If you wish to participate in the meals, you must register and inform us that you will be attending by Thursday morning, March 10th.** If you choose not to participate in the meals, the hotel has a restaurant, and there are other restaurants nearby.

**Your registration must be received by March 1, 2005 (note the earlier date) for the best prices; registrations received after that date are priced higher. See the registration form below.**

Many things, like the raffle, remain the same:

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The Best Western—The Inn at Towamencin is located at Exit 31 of the PA Turnpike Northeast Extension-Lansdale Interchange. Improved access from the south with the Blue Route (I-476)—ask for details. Limo service is available from Phila. Intl Airport directly to the hotel.

Please submit the following form with your registration amount or send for more information to:

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 P.O. Box 4153  
 Clifton Park, NY 12065

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ (SPOUSE'S NAME) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ (REQ. FOR REG. CONFIRMATION)

CHECK ONE OR MORE		
REGISTRATION RECEIVED BY MARCH 1, 2005:	LATE OR ON-SITE REGISTRATION RECEIVED AFTER MARCH 1, 2005:	BANQUET:
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<input type="checkbox"/> <i>New!</i> Lunch-only Saturday (\$23)	<input type="checkbox"/> One-Day Partial w/Lunch (\$25)	<input type="checkbox"/> raffle tickets, please
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>New!</i> Spouse Lunch-only Sat (\$13)	<input type="checkbox"/> Full Spouse/son/daughter (\$40)	<input type="checkbox"/> (\$1 ea./ 6 for \$5/ 13 for \$10)
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Spouse / etc. (\$32)	<input type="checkbox"/> Banquet only (Spouse) (\$25)	Registration Fee Enclosed \$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Banquet only (Spouse) (\$19)	<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse etc. Lunch-only (\$15)	Raffle Tickets Fee Enclosed \$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Student (\$5)	<input type="checkbox"/> Student (\$5)	Total Check/Money Order \$ _____

*Registration cancellations after 2/28/2005 cannot be refunded, however we will refund raffle ticket money if you have to cancel.*