

### From the editor ...

Radio New York International was back on the air Saturday night, October 15, and thanks to a tip from Bill Swiger, of Bridgeport, WV, I was able to hear what must have been them on 1620@kHz from 10:42 to after 11 pm CDT, with AOR-type music from the early seventies ... Paul Simon, Jethro Tull, and even Ray Stevens, I believe. During a phone conversation about two weeks ago, I had mentioned to Bill that I had heard, faintly, music on this frequency one Thursday evening but hadn't taken it too seriously. Now I wonder if R-NYI had sneaked in an early test? Thanks for the tip, Bill. Let's just see how long the FCC and the Coast Guard will allow them to stay on!

**DXChange** ... Bill had called earlier to ask about DXChange, and here's what he's offering: two R-390A's @ \$150 each; one cabinet for an R-390 @ \$25; a Heath SB620 Sanalyzer, \$75; a CV657A SSB converter, \$30; a Cushcraft A3 beam for 10-15-20 meters, new in box, \$200; two PMO's (Portable Master Oscillator), from Technical Material Corp., \$30 each; a Heath DX60B transmitter with extra 6146 tubes, and a Heath HG10B VFO for \$75 both, plus five miles of 16 ga. insulated wire, great for beverages, free (I assume pickup only on the wire.) Bill says that he has manuals for all equipment listed. Address: William D. Swiger - Rt. 1, Box 142-A - Bridgeport, WV 26330, (304) 842-4635.

**Postal time** ... Just as a matter of reference, here's some letter travel times from a couple of editors (postmark first, date of receipt second: Jerry Starr, Youngstown, OH: 10-12/10-14 and 10-13/10-15; Nancy Hardy, Aberdeen, WA: 10-11/10/14. I suspect that nearly anyone in the continental U. S. could mail copy on Tuesday or Wednesday and expect it to arrive at my street address by Saturday. But a package from Atlanta sent by courier on Friday will not arrive in Topeka until Monday ...

**An apology** ... to Debbie Vobbe, whom I renamed as "Carol" in a cutline in DXN V56, #2. My mind is shorting out ... I wonder, now, who "Carol" might be?

**Crystal sets** ... I have to set the record straight. I've never built a crystal set. I've never DX'ed on a crystal set. I've only actually SEEN a few sets. But last year in my *Monitoring Times* column I apparently started something by writing about DX'ing on crystal radio, as I started receiving mail from a number of people telling

about their experiences with their crystal sets, or asking how to go about building one.

Comes now a letter from Bob Zirkelbach, of Pleasant Hill, CA, who "blames" me for getting him hooked on building them. He continues: "I even got in the dog house over it (my dog Barkley kicked me out). I needed some nice wood for attractive-looking bases for my sets. I found just the thing in the shed, an old beautiful walnut table top. Yup! I cut it up, made great-looking bases. I made six crystal sets and they're still going, every one different. The best one has two variable capacitors, 365 pf, and a rotary switch. Empty plastic pill bottles make excellent coil forms; I use ones two inches in diameter and about 5.5 inches long. These sets even interest my friends and grandkids. They can't believe I get music out of the air with no power. 'What won't they think of next' is what they say. I used to take out my very impressive collection of SWL QSL's; they weren't impressed. It was like when I showed my slides from out vacation at Mudd Lake; when I turned the lights on, I was the only one there. Thanks again, Paul, for renewing my interest in crystal sets. But thanks to you I can't look a bowl of Quaker Oats in the face. When I needed the empty box I ate oatmeal every day until the box was empty, hi." (My original article included plans for a crystal set using an oatmeal box as the form for a coil.)

Letters like Bob's make me regret giving up the MT column, but I'm still having fun putting DXN together, so, oh, well. Now, where are the Musers and foreign DX'ers? And surely not everyone agrees with my opinions, do they? Just wait until I decide to get REALLY nasty, hi! 73.

### DX Time Machine

#### From the pages of DX News

**Ten years ago** ... from the October 23, 1978 issue of DXN: Reporters to Ray Arruda's "Domestic DX Digest" included Frank Dailey, Marc DeLorenzo, John Kromka, Konstantine Rychalsky, Brian P. Sherwood, Pete Taylor, William P. Townshend, Bruce Winkelman, and Rocket Ray himself ... DeLorenzo makes the first U. S. report to IDXD of Turks and Caicos-1550, heard on Oct. 3.

**Twenty-five years ago** ... from the October 26, 1963 issue of DXN: Andy Rugg, of Pointe Claire, PQ, reports 1,111 veries out of 1,198, an average of 97.8% ... Frank Curran logs R. Americas-1165, ZNS-1540, ZBM1-1235, Hamilton, Bermuda.

# AM SWITCH

Jerry Starr

c/o WHOT Radio, 4040 Simon Road, Youngstown, OH 44512

## CALL LETTER CHANGES

Old call:	New call:	Old call:	New call:
890 *New PA Cashtown	WFKJ	1340 KSZN TX Pampa	KPDN
*New PA Nicholson	WFQA	1360 KBUK TX Baytown	KWWJ
950 WREZ AL Montgomery	WSYA	1390 KMRY IA Des Moines	KJJY
1250 KGBU OR Florence	KCTS	1430 WWRB TN Madison	WRLT
1290 KVIX OR Lake Oswego	KLVS	1550 WGAB CT Bloomfield	WLWX

## APPLICATIONS/GRANTS FOR NEW STATIONS

None

## APPLICATIONS/GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES

None

## OTHERNESS

- 540 KNMX NM Las Vegas: station is SILENT
- 590 WROW NY Albany: station is SILENT
- 660 WMIC MI Sandusky: new station is ON THE AIR
- 700 \*New VA Reston: this is the correct frequency for this new station, previous listings on 750 kHz evidently an FCC typo as 750 kHz was listed by all the services we get here at AMS
- 1300 WLIR NY Spring Valley: silent station is back ON THE AIR (again)

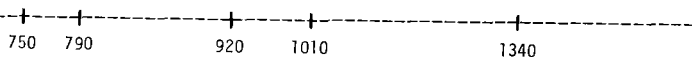
THANKS to members Laura McCusker and Alan Merriman for their contributions.

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

## CITY QUIZ by John S. Bowker

QUIZ # 8

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?



Here is a hint; it is one of these: San Francisco, Atlanta, Anchorage (The answer will appear at the end of the next City Quiz in DX News.) The answer to City Quiz # 7: Little Rock

# DOMESTIC DX DIGEST - EAST

William Hale

2160 Farm To Market Road, Johnson City, NY 13790

## MEDIUM WAVE RAMBLINGS

- **Graveyard Updates** appears toward the end of the column. Watch for 1240 GYDXA, coming soon to a DX News near you. Speaking of GYDXA, if anyone would like a complete set of up-to-the-minute GY lists, send me 50¢ (for postage and an envelope), and I'll send you the 6 GY lists for your reference.
- Just in case you missed the news elsewhere, 660 in The Big Apple is now 66 All-Sports WFAN.
- I can't let it go unsaid...I for one will sorely miss AFRTS on shortwave. While overseas, I depended on it for that 'sound of home', especially sports broadcasts. Even here in the States, I listened almost every day for sports, commentary or otherness not carried on local network stations. I guess the SW service fell victim to the age of satellites. R.I.P.

## SPECIAL

- 640 CIGM ON RICHMOND HILL - 1st noted here 9/17 1727 testing %a relay of CFGM-1320 & no ments of 640; made official switch to 640 @ 1840 on 9/16; still C&W mx; may have changed city of license to Toronto...does anyone know for sure? 1320 XR stayed on for a few days after switch, possibly %reduced power (MS-ON)

## UNIDS & UNIDS ID

- 1300 UNID ?? - 9/17 2240 fair %Tulsne vs Kansas St FB (RD-IA) (WIBR??-WRH)
- 1350 UNID ?? - 9/17 2152 good %Georgia vs Mississippi State FB (RD-IA) KTXJ TX JASPER - 9/24 2223 fair %Texas A&M vs Oklahoma State FB; Timeout on the Texas Aggie FB Network %ads for Jasper & Newton; this is my UNID of 9/3 (RD-IA)

## MIDNIGHT TO MIDDAY

- 630 CFCY PI CHARLOTTESTOWN - 9/26 0515-45 good report thru WHAL; usually on top; frequent CL ments, ads, light ROK mx; nx @ 0530 (HH-MD1)
- 680 WRKO MA BOSTON - 9/9 0453-0532 usually good, well atop WPTF (WCBM not on 'til 0600); LK, nx, America in the Morning, etc (HH-MD2)
- 700 CHSJ NB SAINT JOHN - 9/27 0524-0601 %ads, nx, wx, sps; usually nil-to-little WLW GRM (HH-MD3)
- 720 CHTN PI CHARLOTTETOWN - 9/29 0349-0418 usually well atop frequency %little WGN GRM; All Nite Cafe pgm %mx, ads & comments about Bryant Gumble's 40th b'day; QSL'd 20 yrs ago, when on 1190 (HH-MD4)
- 930 WSOC NC CHARLOTTE - 9/12 0045 fair %C&W mx, simul %103 FM (LMC-NJ)
- 980 WTRY NY TROY - 9/12 0115 poor %98 WTRY slogan (LMC-NJ)
- 1240 CJCS ON STRATFORD - 9/17 1102 poor %nx, sps scoreboard, ID (MS-ON)
- 1300 WIMG NJ TRENTON - 9/13 1035 good %black spiritual-type mx (LMC-NJ)
- 1340 WLVL NY LOCKPORT - 9/17 1109 %talk show, ID, fair signal (MS-ON)
- 1560 KEGG TX DAINGERFIELD - 9/25 0701 alone %detailed %on; the season is underway! (RD-IA)

## MIDDAY TO MIDNIGHT

- 620 WRJZ TN KNOXVILLE - 9/16 2233 fair %REL, ID, PSAs for lcl churches (MS-ON)
- 840 WHGH GA THOMASVILLE - 9/29 1946 fast %off following soul song, no SSB; fair in WHAS null (WPT-DC)
- 900 WJWL DE GEORGETOWN - 9/12 1900 good %ID, strange mix of OLD (LMC-NJ)
- 910 CHRL PQ ROBERVAL - 9/6 2206 fair %Expos BB in FFHCKAC-730, lcl ID, ment of Roberval (MS-ON)
- 920 WHJJ RI PROVIDENCE - 9/27 2000 %Red Sox/Blue Jays BB, ID; fair (WPT-DC)
- 960 WSBY MD SALISBURY - 9/13 1830 fair %MoYL-type mx (LMC-NJ)
- 1050 WWIC AL SCOTTSBORO - 9/14 2058 fair %C&W-ID before nx; AM Ten-Fifty, WWIC Scottsboro (RD-IA)
- 1120 WYNO OH NELSONVILLE - 9/17 1855 fair %2 country hits by Eddie Rabbitt, ID as WYNO Nelsonville-Athens (MS-ON)
- WYNO OH NELSONVILLE - 9/26 1944 %%off; no SSB; fair (WPT-DC)
- 1170 KOWO MN WASECA - 9/24 2052-2102 %KVOO %Minnesota vs Northern Illinois FB; ID @ 2102 (RD-IA)
- 1240 WJEJ MD HAGERSTOWN - 9/13 2245 poor %WBAB %1240 WJEJ ID (LMC-NJ)
- 1260 WNRK DE NEWARK - 9/13 2227 poor %ads, ID, lcl events, call-in show (LMC-NJ)
- 1270 WLBR PA LEBABON - 9/16 1907 good %promo for ABC Olympic coverage, lcl ID (MS-ON)

Nancy Hardy

2301 Pacific Avenue, Aberdeen, WA 98520

Deadlines for receiving DDXD-West tips are Saturdays. Report!

**\*\*SPECIAL\*\***

- 1210 KEBR CA ROCKLIN - 10/8 0453 instrumental religious music, 0459 Family Radio ID, then "KEBR, Rocklin-Sacramento" & anncet. for Sacramento church group meeting, back to music 0500. Average signal atop channel, KASY apparently off. (BH-WA)
- 1590 KQUL WA SEATTLE - 10/8 0310 ex-KJET, good with format change to 1950's 1960's rock oldies, 0317 "This is KQUL Seattle, cool radio 1590..." UnID oldies in their null, perhaps KLIV or KOGO?(BH)

**MIDNIGHT TO MIDDAY**

- 1210 KLDI WY LARAMIE - 10/8 0521 adcon music, ad & weather at "1-21, KLDI," more music. Probably also them at 0500 with CBS News, fading up to average & down to nil. In KEBR null. (BH-WA)
- 1290 KUMA OR PENDLETON - 10/8 0357 fair in KHSL null with adcon music, "KUMA-AM, now serving you 24 hours a day." ABC-I news 0400, weather, more adcon. (BH-WA)
- UNID ?? - 10/8 0345-0407 station with nonstop Elvis music poor in KHSL null. Faded during any announcements or ID. Suspect this is ex-KVIX Lake Oswego-Portland, OR which was reportedly seeking KLVs calls. (BH-WA)
- 1400 KBLX CA BERKELEY - 10/8 0335 tuned in during ad with locations on El Camino Real, San Jose, and Piedmont, "The Quiet Storm, KBLX," into what I'll call Black adcon. Atop with fair signal. New, ex-KRE. (BH-WA)
- 1480 KRED CA EUREKA - 10/8 0323 usual good signal way atop KBMS, country music, DJ patter, national ads, 0325 "continuous country music 24 hours a day, we're 1480 AM, KRED," more music. Sounds like SMN satellite, formerly off at 0300 nightly. (BH)
- 1490 KGHO WA HOQUIAM - 10/8 0300 local ending "Haven of Rest," then s/off for KGHO-AM-FM & studio-transmitter link, "the views expressed do not necessarily..." and reading of the 23rd Psalm, "The Lord Is My Shepard," then off at 0302. (BH-WA)

**REPORTER**

BH-WA/Bill Hardy, Aberdeen, WA 98520/FRG-7, Radio West loop

- 1200 KLLF TX WICHITA FALLS - 9/8 2159 way 9K0IL (Royals BB) \*ID before (RD-IA)
- 1310 WGH VA NEWPORT NEWS - 9/13 1945 fair 9WJLK Wsps tlk show 9phone W given for the Southside & the Peninsula (LMC-NJ)
- WTLE NY UTICA - 9/14 2013 good 9ID: WTLB-Biologically Sound Solid Gold (MS-ON)
- 1320 KOLT NE SCOTTSBLUFF - 9/11 2306 good 9ID:Colt Radio (followed by galloping horse sound)...KOLT, Scottsbluff-Gering-The End of the Road Show 9Tom Bodell (nice to hear him doing something other than Hotel 6 ads) (RD-IA)
- KOZY MN GRAND RAPIDS - 9/15 2152-2205 good 9Twins BB; numerous ads for Coleraine & La Prairie (RD-IA)
- WJAS PA PITTSBURGH - 9/30 2228 fair 9mx, Strangers in the Night promo for WJAS Christmas Charity (seems dominant 9CFGM gone to 640) (MS-ON)
- 1360 WWBZ NJ VINELAND - 9/13 1900 good 9%off (LMc-NJ)
- WRSG NY BINGHAMTON - 9/14 1957 fair 9 wx 4cast for the Southern Tier, wx also mentg downtown Binghamton; WRSG ID (MS-ON)
- 1490 WAQX NY SYRACUSE - 9/14 1927 fair 9ID as 95X, WAQX, referring to FMer WAQX 95.7 (MS-ON)
- WCSS NY AMSTERDAM - 10/2 1859 fair 9promo for WCSS Community Calendar mentg Amsterdam, NY (MS-ON)
- 1530 KXTD OK WAGONER - 9/19 2030 fair 9WCKY 9%off; ment of studios & offices in Broken Arrow (RD-IA)
- 1580 WEBG PA EBENSBURG - 9/15 1902 fair 9nx, AIDS PSA, ID:WEBG in downtown Ebensburg, wx (MS-ON)
- 1590 WETT MD OCEAN CITY - 9/12 1740 good 9OLD (LMc-NJ)
- WASB NY BROOKPORT - 9/17 1755 fair 9country hit, ID 1590, WASB in Brockport (MS-ON)
- 1600 WKEN DE DOVER - 9/12 1755 good 9ads, wx, Newstalk 16 ID (LMc-NJ)

**GRAVEYARD UPDATE (all new records)**

1240:	1340:	1400:
CKG0 BC Hope Tim Hall Vancouver Island, BC 111	KIHR OR Hood River Tim Hall Mt Ranier Nat'l Park, WA 63	CJEK BC Sparwood Tim Hall Banff, AB 107
CJAV Port Alberni Tim Hall Vancouver, BC 77	KLKI WA Anacortes Tim Hall Mt Ranier Nat'l Park 146	

**REPORTERS:**

- RD-IA Rick Dau/Oakland, IA/Reader's Digest 10-band Rx
- WPT-DC William Townsend/Washington, DC/ICF-2010
- LMc-NJ Laura McQueber/vac at Beach Haven, Long Beach Island, NJ/4E World Monitor
- HH-MD1 Hank Holbrook/Fair Haven Cliffs, MD/Realistic 12-656A barefoot
- HH-MD2 Hank Holbrook/Fair Haven Cliffs, MD/SP-600 9100' LW
- HH-MD3 Hank Holbrook/Fair Haven Cliffs, MD/ICF-2010 9100' LW
- HH-MD4 Hank Holbrook/Fair Haven Cliffs, MD/SP-600 9Colgrove Loop
- MS-ON Morris Sorensen/Port Carling, ON/ICF-2010 + SM-2

**SOME ABBREVIATIONS & SPECIAL SYMBOLS USED IN DDXD-E**

T: test tone C: open carrier TC: time check W: interference Wk: location SD: singing ID CD: code ID j: jungle l: local lg: legal m: music n: news v: weather s: sports H: high school F: football B: baseball BB: basketball W: hockey h: after t: before S: stereo s: equal with or equal to :00 on the hour l: parallel with %: over under %: over under %: over under %: over under %: over under %: over under S: Spanish F: French E: English A: political G: gospel R: religion or religious B: big band Q: oldies K: rock 'n' roll E: easy listening C: country & western K: adult contemporary C: urban contemporary H: talk Con: contemporary Christian C: contemporary hit radio M: Associated Press Radio U: United Press International MS: Mutual Broadcasting System H: Motor Racing Net USN: United States Radio Net M: Music Country Radio Net I: Interstate Radio Net L: Larry King D: Bruce Williams P: Paul Harvey s/on: sign on s/off: sign off S: sunrise S: sunset S: sunset skip L: local sunset S: Star Spangled Banner

# ABC Radio Nets, Vet Harvey Top RADAR Survey Results

-via Pete Kemp

73, Bill

Chicago — ABC Radio Networks and the web's veteran newsman Paul Harvey have much cause for celebration, per spring 1988 RADAR survey of network radio audiences.

Harvey racked up the largest average audience figure in the survey's history, with 6,033,000 12-plus listeners of his 8:30 a.m. weekday newscast. He was also his own hottest competition with the next four slots in the top-20 programs category (measuring 12-plus listeners to commercials within programs) filled by his shows: a 12:06 p.m. weekday newscast, drawing 4.

309,000; an 8:30 a.m. Saturday newscast, 3,780,000; an 11:10 a.m. Saturday newscast, 2,980,000; and a 3:06 p.m. weekday feature, "Rest Of The Story," with 2,676,000.

In addition to the Harvey sweep of the top five radio programs, ABC scored three more in the top 20, all weekday newscasts supplied by its Information Network. Ninth, 11th and 18th places went to the web's 7, 8 and 9 a.m. news shows.

CBS Radio Networks also had a strong showing, filling out the remaining 12 positions in the top 20 programs, including three weekday

"Osgood File" reports at 7:25, 6:25 and 8:25 a.m., ranked 8th, 10th and 14th, respectively.

ABC Information network ranked No. 1 overall, based on an AQH audience of 2,032,000 listeners to commercials in the daypart common to all full-service webs: Monday-Saturday, 6 a.m.-7 p.m. ABC Entertainment network was next, with 1,923,000.

Transtar Radio Network took third with 1,653,000, showing a noteworthy increase of 33.8% over the last RADAR survey, in which it ranked eighth.

Mutual Broadcasting System was fourth scoring 1,564,000. ABC Contemporary network was fifth, logging 1,552,000.

ABC Information and ABC Entertainment networks were also first and second in the key 25-54 demographic for the common daypart category, with 1,067,000 and 1,066,000 listeners, respectively. Transtar came in third with 1,008,000.

Among listeners 12-34 in the common daypart, ABC Contemporary network was tops with 1,054,000.

## Swedish Listener Picks Up KITZ Radio

If you sometimes have trouble picking up Knap County's local radio stations, the problem could be in your equipment.

While it's true that some listeners in "Little Norway" can't pick up the local stations, there are at least two listeners in Sweden who listen to Charlie Wise on KITZ (AM 1400).

Ole Alm and Ian Hedberg were tuned in to the Silverdale station on October 21 at about 8:30 p.m. and recorded a portion of Wise's show. Alm then sent a copy of the tape to KITZ, with a request for written confirmation that it was, indeed, KITZ that the two men had picked up on Alm's radio.

Alm is a member of the Arctic Radio Club, the first medium wave DX (short wave) club in Europe and uses a Japanese-made Japan Radio Corporation NRD-515 receiver (lightly modified). The antenna used was 800 meters (2600 feet) to the northwest.

An electronics engineer employed by a patent agency, Alm also sent KITZ a photograph of himself, as well as information on his personal background, the town of Harnosand (where he lives), and the country of Sweden.

Alm, 44, says he has listened to

dozens of radio stations for more than 30 years and has verified some 1900 stations from 200 countries.

In his letter to KITZ, Alm writes "I recently spent four weeks at a place in northern Sweden...where we were able to hear many unusual stations. One of the most surprising catches was KITZ, which came up quite clear."

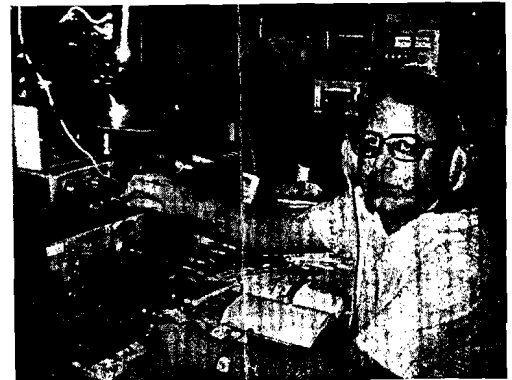
Alm mentions hearing the station identification, Wise's "patter," and notes that the station's contest line phone number (892-9078) was mentioned.

"It was a great thrill to be able to pick up your signal," Alm wrote.

Alm isn't the only one excited. KITZ's Charlie Wise used almost the same words to describe how he felt about having listeners in Sweden. "I'm thrilled," he said.

Wise said he would like to play a portion of Alm's tape on the air, although he has not yet heard the recording himself and doesn't know what the quality is like.

If you live in the north and have trouble picking up one of the local radio stations, just do what Ole does. Erect a 2600-foot antenna. If it works for Ole in Sweden, it should work for you in Little Norway.



OLLE ALM listens to KITZ Radio in Harnosand, Sweden.

Wednesday Magazine — December 16, 1987

--via Olle Alm

# INTERNATIONAL DX DIGEST

Chuck Hutton

1237 Lanier Blvd., Atlanta, GA 30306

Times are GMT (UTC), for ELT subtract 4 hours. (404) 873-2785 Before 2300 ELT

- 425 ST. KITTS Basseterre heard here almost every night. By far the easiest split to NJ. (Kenneally)
- 830 BELIZE R. Belize, Belize 0151 9/14 occasionally good signal with fairly muffled audio. Never got a decent ID, but got lots of Belize weather and discussions of Gilbert. They gave a long list of weather forecasts for various LA cities, then repeated list in SS. (Kenneally)
- 840 CUBA CMEL Santa Clara 0300 9/14 up strong for about 20 minutes in WHAS null with full Dobleve ID and some call letters and frequencies given I think. (Kenneally)
- 850 PUERTO RICO Aguadilla 0132 9/14 good with deep fades and brutal TVI hash. Many "Waba" ID's and much talk in general. Surprised at the signal. What is the power on this one? (Kenneally) Don't know. I am typing this at work... Chuck
- 1100 ANTIGUA ZDK St. John's 0102 9/14 strong over considerable SAH mvsh. No sign of WWWE. Reggae and Whitney Houston and usual wild DJ. Slogan was "The mighty 1100, Zed D K. Lock it in and rip the knob off". (Kenneally)
- 1160 BERMUDA VSB3 Hamilton 2349 9/13 loud and clear with Jack Wagner and Mike Tanner hit music program that sounded American and syndicated. VSB3 ID dropped in over program audio by woman at 2349. I was here looking for the Dominican Republic outlet and got this as a surprise. Never heard from old QTH in Cincinnati. (Kenneally)
- 1220 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC Santo Domingo H1N 2344 9/13 way atop freq with music then beautiful ID, callas and all. This was the first tip that conditions were unusual. (Kenneally)
- 1430 COLOMBIA HJKU Bogota 0700 9/27 assumed here at top of the hour under CJCL with many mentions of Bogota. Missed the ID. (Kenneally)
- 1570 TURKS AND CAICOS 0302 9/14 very strong with usual religious stuff. Ad for jobs in Christian ministries, ID, next program. (Kenneally)

All from...

Rick Kenneally - Jersey City NJ RP2900, DX160

Radio Shanghai to air Satellite Music programs. 50,000 square kilometer area, including Shanghai and its neighboring Juangsu and Zhejiang provinces.

By Joe Simmach, Dallas Morn. News. SMN spokeswoman Kristine Sites in Dallas said half the programming would be done in Dallas. The music will be the same product that the company sells to AM and FM stations across America, she said.

Dallas-based Satellite Music Network Inc. reached an agreement with Radio Shanghai to air U.S. popular music to 35 million Chinese. The programs initially will be broadcast daily during the noon hour over one stereophonic FM frequency, 103.7, operated by Radio Shanghai. Satellite Music hopes to sell U.S. advertisers time on the programming. Ad agencies in Hong Kong have expressed a great deal of interest in the venture.

Beginning Sept. 5, SMN will supply Radio Shanghai with four music formats-- Pure Gold, golden oldies; Rock'n'Hits, top 40; Country Coast-to-Coast, traditional country and StarStation, adult contemporary music.

Radio Shanghai is the largest radio network in China, with seven channels -- five AM and two Stereo FM -- broadcasting in standard Chinese, Shanghai dialect and English. The stations cover a

-0-  
-via Wally Wawro

# GRAVEYARD DX ACHIEVEMENTS

William R. Hale

2160 Farm To Market Road, Johnson City, NY 13790

Distance Records for 1230, 1240, 1340, 1400, 1450 and 1490 KHz Frequencies

1240 Kc  
Prior to Jan 1, 1960

Date of last update: Dec 5, 1987

WEBJ	AL Brewton	Gene Allen	Vallejo, CA	2057
WULA	Eufaula	Gene Allen	Vallejo	2142
WJBY	Gadsden	Gene Allen	Vallejo	2041
WWWB	Jasper	Gene Allen	Vallejo	1977
WCOW	Montgomery	Gene Allen	Vallejo	2066
KBYS	AK Anchorage	Gene Allen	Vallejo	2019
KWJB	AZ Globe	Hank Holbrook	Chevy Chase, MD	1922
KOPA	Yuma	Gene Allen	Vallejo	568
KVRC	AR Arkadelphia	Don Kaskey	Galva, IA	584
KWAK	Stuttgart	Frank Wheeler	Erie, PA	810
KURC	CA Crescent City	Don Kaskey	Sacramento, CA	261
KRDU	Cinuba	Don Kaskey	Sacramento	177
KHUM	Eureka	Gene Allen	Vallejo	211
KBON	Monterey	Gene Allen	Vallejo	108
KPPC	Pasadena	Stan Morss	Boxford, MA	2620
KRKS	Ridgecrest	Gene Allen	Vallejo	306
KROY	Sacramento	Don Kaskey	Galva	1391
KMPO	San Bernardino	Stan Morss	Boxford	2609
KSON	San Diego	Eric McIntosh	Invercargill, NZ	7165
KSUE	Sanville	Don Kaskey	Omaha, NE	1272
KCOX	Sulare	Gene Allen	Vallejo	206
KRDO	CO Colorado Springs	Gene Allen	Vallejo	943
KDGO	Durango	Gene Allen	Vallejo	787
KSLV	Monte Vista	Gene Allen	Vallejo	879
KWBC	Montrose	Gene Allen	Vallejo	779
KCRT	Trinidad	Frank Wheeler	Erie	1332
WVCO	CT Waterbury	Frank Wheeler	Erie	360
WLCO	FL Eustis	Frank Wheeler	Erie	920
WLNK	Ft. Myers	Gene Allen	Vallejo	2487
WMMB	Melbourne	Don Kaskey	Omaha	1259
WFOY	St. Augustine	Roy Millar	Marysville, WA	2519
WGAI	GA Augusta	Gene Allen	Vallejo	2268
WBHB	Fitzgerald	Don Kaskey	Omaha	967
WGGA	Gainesville	Don Kaskey	Galva	851
WLAG	La Grange	Gene Allen	Vallejo	2110
WBHI	Macon	Roy Millar	Marysville	2286
WFAX	Thomasville	Gene Allen	Vallejo	2239
WFWA	Thon	Don Kaskey	Galva	934
WCRW	IL Chicago	Frank Wheeler	Erie	394
WEDC	Chicago	Gene Allen	Vallejo	1850
WSBC	Chicago	Frank Wheeler	Erie	394
WEBQ	Harrisburg	Gene Allen	Vallejo	1850
WTAX	Springfield	Frank Wheeler	Erie	526
WSDR	Sterling	Gene Allen	Vallejo	1743
WHBU	IN Anderson	Frank Wheeler	Erie	321
KDEK	IA Decora	Frank Wheeler	Erie	598
KWLC	Decora	Frank Wheeler	Erie	598
KBIZ	Ottumwa	Gene Allen	Vallejo	1599
KICD	Spencer	Frank Wheeler	Erie	772
KIUL	KS Garden City	Ralph Sperry	Fairfield, CT	1485
KAKE	Wichita	Gene Allen	Vallejo	1353
WJNN	KY Louisville	Eric McIntosh	Invercargill	8746
WFTH	Maysville	Gene Allen	Vallejo	2084
WPKE	Pikeville	Don Kaskey	Galva	762
WSFC	Somerset	Don Kaskey	Omaha	673
KALB	LA Alexandria	Gene Allen	Vallejo	1756
KANE	New Iberia	Frank Wheeler	Erie	1066
WCBM	MD Cambridge	Gene Allen	Vallejo	2504
WJEJ	Hagerstown	Frank Wheeler	Erie	371
WHAI	MA Greenfield	Frank Wheeler	Erie	383
WOCB	West Yarmouth	Frank Wheeler	Erie	312
WATT	MI Cadillac	Frank Wheeler	Erie	311
WVBY	Chebygen	Frank Wheeler	Erie	333
WJBD	Champaign	Don Kaskey	Galva	489
WJIM	Lansing	Frank Wheeler	Erie	232
WMFG	MN Hibbing	Frank Wheeler	Erie	727
WGRM	MS Greenwood	Frank Wheeler	Erie	809
WGCM	Gulfport	Gene Allen	Vallejo	1968
WWOZ	Meridian	Gene Allen	Vallejo	1903
WHIS	Natchez	Frank Wheeler	Erie	959
KXLW	MO Clayton	Roy Millar	Marysville	1241
KFHO	MO Flat River	Frank Wheeler	Erie	1633
KWOS	Jefferson City	Gene Allen	Vallejo	1629
KXLJ	MT Helena	Don Kaskey	Galva	864
KFOR	NE Lincoln	Frank Wheeler	Erie	869
KODY	North Platte	Gene Allen	Vallejo	1162
WSNJ	NJ Bridgeton	Frank Wheeler	Erie	316
KOAT	NM Albuquerque	Don Kaskey	Galva	779
KANO	Carlsbad	Frank Wheeler	Erie	1495
WBBB	NY Freeport	Frank Wheeler	Erie	350
WQVA	Geneva	Frank Wheeler	Erie	164
WJTN	Jamestown	Frank Wheeler	Erie	49
WVDS	Liberty	Frank Wheeler	Erie	273
WNBZ	Saranac Lake	Frank Wheeler	Erie	334

Need more information about MW DX?

Mail \$1.00 to the NRC Pub Center,  
ask for the Reprints Catalog

Table listing radio stations with columns for call letters, location, station name, call letters, and power in watts.

1240 kHz
Jan 1, 1960 to Present

Date of Last Update: Oct 2, 1988

Table listing radio stations with columns for call letters, location, station name, call letters, and power in watts.

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CKWL	Williams Lake	Roy Millar	Marysville	420
CJAR	MB The Pas	Olle Alm	Karesuando, Sweden	4215
CKIM	NF Baie Verte	Olle Alm	Stockholm, Sweden	3038
CJCD	NT Yellowknife	Olle Alm	Karesuando	3940
CJNH	ON Bancroft	Jeff Falconer	Clinton	217
CBEZ	Britt	Morris Sorensen	Emsdale	71
CJCS	Stratford	Joe Buehler	Toledo	205
CJWA	Wawa	Morris Sorensen	God's Narrows, MB	935
CJRW	PI Summerside	Chris Lucas	Fairfield	590
CJAF	PQ Cabano	Christian Dehaes	Chicoutimi, PQ	112
CJMD	Chibougamau	Mike Csorby	Canfield	540
CIRB	Lac-Etchemin	Christian Dehaes	Chicoutimi	141
CKLS	La Sarre	Morris Sorensen	God's Narrows	1060
CKLM	Le Tuque	Joe Kurath	Uniontown	580
CFLS	Levis	Paul Mount	Teesneck, NJ	450
CKBS	St Hyacinthe	Rodney Valdron	Petit Rocher	375
CJNS	SK Meadow Lake	Olle Alm	Abisko, Sweden	4292
XECG	SON Nogales	Robert Wien	San Jose, CA	755
XES	TAMS Tampico	Rick Carr	Austin	560
TGK	GT Guatemala City	Niel Wolfish	Toronto, ON	2106
HJFG	COL Armenia	Eric Bueneman	Hazlewood	2539
OAZ4Q	PERU Huacho	Richard E. Wood	Hilo	5732

## Radio Antillas ... By César Objió

Most of DX listeners don't know it, but Radio Antillas, Santo Domingo, 1120 kHz, MW, has been off the air for more than two years. What happened?

At the beginning of 1986 the station was bought by a financial group named Internacional Dominicana, S. A. (Interdosa), which owned some banks and other similar business concerns. Since the beginning the owners created what was called as Difusora Intercontinental, S. A., which the intention to make it one of the biggest radio networks in the country. A new name was also chosen to replace the old one of Radio Antillas: "Radio Cumbre".

For this purpose they intended to increase the power of the main station in Santo Domingo from 5 to 10 kW with repeaters at El Seibo (on the eastern part of the country), another at Vicente Noble (on the southwestern part), all with the same power and frequency with phased transmitters, and another one at San Juan with 5 kW (on the western region). In the north: Radio Exitos in Santiago was to relay their programs on 1130 kHz. Also Radio Oro on 1420 at Cotui was acquired, this one on the northeastern part of the country.

All these stations were to be linked together with an FM transmitter located at a small mountain named La Colonia, near San Cristóbal, some 30 kms. west of Santo Domingo. The freq. was on 101.7 MHz, and power was to be 10 kW. "Olimpica 92 FM" at La Vega on 92.7 MHz was also to be a part of the network. A short waves transmitter was installed with which they started test transmissions and was heard abroad on the freq. of 5955 kHz in the 49 meter band. All of this was happening in March 1986. The station, due to the new face, was to be moved to a new studio at Avenida Rómulo Betancourt. All was going well.

At the beginning of 1988 there happened to be several bankruptcies on some financial companies in Santo Domingo which created panic in persons who had placed their savings on them in order to receive very good monthly interests. The first bankrupt company was La Monetaria, whose president was said to have left the country leaving the depositors merciless and penniless. After further government investigations it was discovered that Interdosa was on the same road and the big broadcasting dream came to a fatal awakening.

The last chapter of the story was when quite recently the former owner of R. Oro -1420- Cotui sued the President of Interdosa for swindle. He said that they had agreed to the sale and purchase of the station for the amount of \$250,000 for which he received \$10,000 as a purchase option on June 5, 1987. On July 15 he received a check for \$140,000 against the company's account and an investment certificate for \$90,000, but which he could not cash as there was no money on the account to support the check. Later on he received another financial

certificate for the amount of \$100,000 against another bank with no luck either.

The former owner said he returned everything to Interdosa in order to receive his station back as he had not received any money in fact. In the meantime the director appointed on R. Oro by Interdosa had started to take some equipment out of the station and at the same time he was not willing to return the station to the lawful owner.

Right now R. Antillas and Interdosa are through legal procedures in order to clear out the situation. Meanwhile the station is off the air for the time being. For how long, we don't know.

# CONTESTS

George Sherman

104 Pinewood Circle, Apple Valley, Minneapolis, MN 551249319

### MORE CONTEST INFO

Please note that my correct zip code is 55124, not 55024. If anyone got their entry back due to wrong zip code, send the original envelope (& list) inside another envelope & your most likely loggings will be valid from day after original postmark. When reporting, please indicate what time zone you're in &/or using.

Scoring clarifications (refer to p. 15 in 8/15 DX NEWS)

- A. "each state & province" means USA & Canadian stations only, locals okay
- C. Handicap multipliers include bonus points & apply to all 5 loggings for each state & province (not just the first).
- D. 10 points for each s/on or s/off heard AND REPORTED TO DDXI means each station may be counted once for s/on & once for s/off. Sign on & s/off loggings do not have to be used in level loggings, they can be reported to me instead on a separate sheet. Example: the s/off was a clear, level logging a regional or graveyard station.
- E. Most likely stations heard do not have to be used in level loggings.
- F. Other new loggings worth 10 points means anything not on your most likely list, including stations that started broadcasting after start of contest

DX LOCATION: All loggings must be heard within a 25 mile radius of your main DX location, or if you have 2 homes, within a 25 mile radius of either. Stations previously heard within a 25 mile radius are ineligible for most likely list & other new logs.

THANKS to those who entered. Remember, contests get radios on more often by giving meaning to relogs & contestants receive more new DX. The number of new loggings for each contestant will be published to prove this. Many of past participants BEST EVER DX may never have been heard without the contests. If you feel like giving up MW DX, join the contest, try seriously for relogs & you won't believe all the "impossible" new loggings you get!

DXer	1987-88 Contest Results									
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
P. Routenbourg, ON	<u>4424</u>	<u>3104</u>	<u>17</u>	4	<u>12</u>	<u>4</u>	1	1	0	620
N. Wolfish, MB	3990	3486	6	4	6	2	1	0	0	174
G. Sherman, MN	3201	3021	5	0	5	1	0	0	0	-
J. Boehn, TX	3099	1673	9	<u>5</u>	8	2	4	0	0	836
K. Vance, VA	2739	2208	6	3	0	1	0	0	0	331
J. Tudenham, MO	2399	2185	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	109
G. Coniglio, NY	2144	1587	7	3	1	2	2	2	0	317
N. Hardy, WA	947	508	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	304
L. Van Horn, FL	880	629	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	251
B. Hardy, WA	705	388	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	232
D. Hascall, IN	550	500	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	-
M. Hogan, IL	0	R. Kramer, noncontest manager, no prizes								
K. Kramer, IL	4051	3766	6	1	3	3	2	1	0	-

A=Total points B=State & province pts. C=Most wanted D=H.M.wanted  
E=Targets F=Aux.Targets G=Singletons H=Duplicators I=Eliminators  
J=Handicap points. Underlined are prize winners for each category.

# Up and At 'Em ... via Ken Chatterton

By TOM STARNER

A teen-ager in Camillus primpes before her lighted makeup mirror. In Fayetteville, a groggy-eyed junior executive buzzes an electric razor across a chin full of stubbly whiskers.

A harried Eastwood motor rushes to get her four youngsters off to school on time, while a factory worker on the way to the plant edges the speed limit down Interstate 81.

At least two common threads run throughout the seemingly disjointed lives of these people.

They are facing another day. And they are trying to blunt that usually humdrum prospect by listening to their favorite station during "morning drive" — radio's prime time.

"Morning drive is radio," says Dan Deeb, station manager at WSEN-AM/FM near Baldwinsville. "The majority of money is made then, the majority of the promotions are done then and the highest salaries are paid to morning personalities."

Hugh Barr, general manager of WSYR-AM and WYYY-FM, two of Syracuse's top-rated radio stations, concurs.

"Generally speaking, most of the time the radio universe is larger in morning drive," Barr says. "By its enormity, it is most important for us."

Enormity is the correct word. According to Radio Advertising Bureau statistics, 97 percent of the cars used for commuting have radios, and 80 percent of the adults who commute to work drive cars.

Also, 87.8 percent of the radio audience 12 years and older is reached weekly between 6 and 10 a.m., which makes morning drive the highest-rated "day-part."

Locally, the consensus of radio station managers is morning drive accounts for \$2.5 million to \$3 million of the Syracuse market's estimated \$8.5 million to \$9 million in radio advertising sales.

At WSYR and WYYY, Barr says morning drive is responsible for 36 percent of combined advertising revenues.

"I can't think of any station where the morning drive is not the highest advertising rate and where more commercials are run," says WSEN's Deeb, a 15-year veteran of local radio.

Deeb recalls that, several years ago, a group of Syracuse University students doing a research project telephoned 2,000 people at random and asked for favorite radio personalities. The top 10 were morning drive deejays.

"And some of them had been off the radio for three or four years," notes Deeb.

"If you do that today, the results will probably be the same with few exceptions," Deeb concludes.

While people are getting news, weather, traffic reports, time, sports scores and even some music on their way to work, school or play, the morning drive deejay is doing whatever he has to do to keep them tuned to his frequency.

Some say it's simple: be natural, be yourself. Other methods include babbling at hyperspeed, telling corny jokes, creating crazy characters and making funny noises.

With those diverse methods, morning drive deejays thrive. To that housewife out in East Syracuse or the office worker downtown, morning personalities are disembodied voices, invisible communicators, characters of the mind.

To radio station management, they are bread and butter.

Which personality traits make for the best morning drive deejays?

That depends on the format, though talking to area radio managers, one comes to the surface.

"I think nobody wants to get up with a grouch," says WSYR's Barr. "People like somebody they can feel comfortable with and relate to."

Syracuse's morning drive history began with the legendary early-morning favorite Deacon Doubleday, whose "Wired Woodshed" on WSYR kept the farmers listening and the cows happy during the 1940s and '50s. It continued with Ed "Silvertop" Murphy, who picked up where Deacon left off, and Phil Markert, a man who played the piano and sang baseball scores to keep his WHEN listeners tuned in.

A few of the veterans are still around, WSEN's Bill Merchant, for example. But for the most part, those who populate morning drive have changed.

## WYYY-FM/Big Mike Fies

"At 4:04 the alarm goes off. I hit it. At 4:13 and 4:22, I hit it and I hit it again. If it says 4:31, I'd better get out of bed."

That is how Big Mike Fies, Y-94's morning man, says he gets his engine started in the wee hours of each day.

"What I try to do is wake people up by being pleasant, friendly and topical," says Big Mike, who, according to Arbitron figures, is Syracuse's most listened to morning man. "My humor is relative to what's going on that day."

Big Mike — a 6-footer whose weight fluctuates between 220 and 270 — came to Syracuse in late 1979 as the morning man for "94-Rock," WSYR's format on FM in 1980. Last year, the station changed its call letters to WYYY and format to "adult contemporary." A few left the station for other rock formats, but Big Mike remained.

"My style hasn't changed," says Mike, who lists cab driver, mothball salesman (seriously, folks) and New York State Motor Vehicle Investigator as former occupations.

One thing you won't find on Big Mike's show are the baseball scores or NHL results because, with the Dome Ranger (insurance man Dennis Erogan) as sportscaster, the talk, most of it silly, revolves around Syracuse University sports.

Dick DeLine is a solid news reader, and Christine (no last name) is the "Y in the Sky" traffic spotter.

Twice voted Radio Personality of the Year (in a medium market) by Billboard, a top industry trade publication, the sharp-voiced Big Mike doesn't do characterizations or tell straight jokes.

"I don't do that because Big Mike is a character in himself. And there are very few one-liners but, then again, I'm not good at that, so it wouldn't ring true."

What is Big Mike's biggest radio fear? "Being misinterpreted," he says. "Because the humor is topical, people misinterpret what I'm saying. Like if I make fun of Mr. T, people might think it's racial. But that's not true."

For example, he once made fun of body builder Lou Ferrigno's speech, then found out later that Ferrigno is hard of hearing.

"I apologized on the air for days," he says. "I felt terrible."

Would Big Mike trade his morning "Big Show" for anything else? No way.

"This is the best. Not in terms of time, but this is where it's all happening," he says gleefully, a trace of his Bronx accent coming through. "When I was a kid in school, I always got up and listened to the radio."

## WHEN-AM/Ray Diorio

For the past 5 1/2 years, Ray Diorio has provided WHEN listeners with facts, humor and music. Bolstered by newscaster Bill Carey, sky-bound traffic watcher Capt. Scott King — a personality in himself with his excited, high-pitched voice and corny jokes — and WHEN's strong news gathering operation, Diorio says his forte is honesty.

"I work best by being myself without sounding phony. People don't want someone who sounds like an idiot."

Diorio says his humor is spontaneous, mostly derived from the morning newspaper. He doesn't do satire or irreverent humor. His specialty is movie and TV trivia.



Ted Downes, left, and Bill Merchant at WSEN just before Downes became 61.

"It's always good to have a blend of information and music," he says. "People want to know if they have to get up five minutes early to scrape the ice off their windshields."

In that vein, Diorio says a morning person is secondary to information.

"People want to know about all these elements — weather, time, news — then the music and personality come next."

Diorio's biggest radio fear? "Waking up too late," he says.

## WSYR-AM/Don Dauer-Rick Gary

WSYR-AM delivers a one two morning punch with Don Dauer, who comes on at 4:30 a.m., and Rick Gary, who works with Dauer for a half hour before his own show begins at 7 a.m.

Dauer inherited Deacon Doubleday's "Wired Woodshed" on WSYR, giving farmers and outdoorsmen information they need and want.

"I think now the key is service more than anything else," Dauer says. "Time, temperature and news — sprinkle in a little music and that just about does it."

WSYR recently expanded its news operation, and it also gathered an army of "weather watchers," mostly stay-at-home types, all over Central New York. For traffic, John Hartley shares the airplane with Y-94's Christine.

Is there an advantage to going on at 4:30 a.m.?

"Syracuse gets up early. Syracusans go to work at 7 o'clock," Dauer says. "In the good weather, there's a tremendous number of people going into construction jobs. And the farmers in the barn get better and earlier coverage."

Syracuse native Rick Gary's approach is a world away from Dauer's. Gary, who worked in Kentucky, Boston and Memphis before coming to Syracuse, has done all radio shifts and styles. But in his 16 years of radio experience, 10 have been in morning drive.

"One thing important to morning drive is to keep it fun," says Gary in his staccato style. "I don't delve into politics. People can hear that on the news."

Gary thinks the most important thing a morning drive person can be is a "personality."

"I hate the term disc jockey," he says. "It's a misnomer. Today it's a new occupation. A disc jockey sits behind a mike and spins records. That's not a 'personality.' Besides, we don't even play records anymore. It's all on tape."

Gary's earlier claim to fame around these parts was as half of "The Rick and Ron Show" on WOLF-AM. The other half was Ron Bee, who recently resigned from a morning drive job at WRRB-FM. Gary says the irreverent "Rick and Ron" did blue humor and made a lot of noise. "Old schtick," according to Gary.

"People either liked us or they didn't. Now, I'm a little more sedate.

"I liken myself to an actor," says Gary, the focus of a popular and expensive (\$25,000) WSYR promotional TV spot a couple of months back. "Now I'm playing a different part — a little more of a straight guy, but still with a sense of humor."

## WAQX-FM Chris Rivers-Amy Dahliman

"Here's the old flamin' head himself, Michael Jackson on 95-X," says Chris Rivers as he intros one of Jackson's million hits.

Crude? Maybe. But Chris Rivers? Definitely.

"I'm off the wall," says Rivers, half of WAQX-FM's morning drive team. "Let's have a couple of laughs at someone's expense and play a hell of a lot of rock 'n' roll."

"When I'm entering someone's life they're in their underwear," says Amy Dahliman, 95-X's other morning person. "They're in a semi-comatose state."

Rivers and Dahliman also do comedy bits like "Solvay," a spoof of Syracuse, and "Police Blotter," odd but true facts, a derivative of humor magazine The National Lampoon.

Rivers, who formerly worked at the same station as Y-94's Big Mike, isn't shy about his abilities behind the mike. He says 95-X Syracuse's top album rock station, conducted its first talent search to find him.

"I was really excited about the team concept, especially with a male and female," Rivers says. "That's the most natural — a guy and a girl."

"We feel we have a magic combination," adds Dahliman. "I try to be as friendly as I can and not a turn off at the same time. Some women (on the radio) try to be too sexy, and that turns people off."

"I've become aware of what the audience wants," Dahliman says of her role. "I'm not gonna spend 20 minutes on Beirut."

Dahliman was a 95-X morning person before Rivers came to town, working with Champagne "Lenny" Bilotto. The Rivers/Dahliman partnership has been going on for three years, and both like the mix.

Any on-air embarrassing moments?

"To tell you the truth, we're really on top of it," Dahliman says unflinchingly. "We went skiing once and couldn't ski."

"We try to be up, but we don't want to be shouting," says Rivers. "Up and positive and happy. Just a couple of people sitting around having coffee."

## WNDE-AM/Jim O'Brien

Twenty-four years on the air make WNDR's Jim O'Brien longevity king in

Syracuse radio. He hasn't been strictly a morning man all those years, but he's got his early-bird philosophy down pat.

"It's the worst time of the day for a person, especially if they are going to a job they don't like," O'Brien says. "If it's possible to make it easier, that's what I try to do. I'm kind of an up person, not negative. I don't want to burden anybody with problems."

Of all the odd morning drive stories gathered for this article, O'Brien's tops the list. Several weeks ago, he got a call from a woman requesting an oldie entitled "My Dad" by Paul Peterson (the son on the old Donna Reed TV show). The caller wanted the record played a few days later at a specified time.

Why? The woman's father had died, and she wanted the record played during the funeral.

"It's all part of the job," says O'Brien.

## WSEN-AM & FM Bill Merchant-Ted Downes

As a team, Ted Downes, who recently was stricken by a heart attack, and Bill Merchant have been on the air longer than anyone around. As a cornball duo, nobody — team or single — comes close to the lunacy the two concocted in WSEN's tiny rural studio outside Baldwinsville.

Depending on your tastes, it's old-fashioned and a bit stale, or it's belly laughs.

"We started out as a team 13 years ago at WFBL," said Downes in an interview prior to his illness. "And then we got fired. We had to get out into the real world, but we didn't like it. We've been here about seven years."

If you live in these parts, the name Granny Groove has probably crossed your eyes or ears. Granny — who gives definition to the phrase "dirty old lady" — is one of Merchant's on-air characters. Another is Gordon Surley, a vindictive hairdresser.

Downes' character is Groper Follman, president of the Prester John Water Pistol Co.

Downes and Merchant also do "Smalltown," the only "continuous, non-contiguous soap opera," according to Downes.

"The cornier and more off-the-wall, the better," says Downes of their material.

This is the first venture in country music, WSEN's format, for Downes ("I used to think Johnny Cash was a pay toilet.") Merchant had some prior experience.

Merchant controls the knobs and plays the music, while Downes sets up the humor. Neither cares who gets the most laughs.

"One of the reasons we've existed for so long is that we have no ego problems," Downes says. "We don't care who gets the punch lines."

As for where their ideas come from: "We have no shame at all about the sources of our humor," Downes laughs. "We'll take from anybody . . . Hee Haw, Home Box Office."

Merchant says that Downes has suffered a couple of other heart attacks in the past, but always bounced back.

"He may not be back on the air right away, but he'll be writing again," Merchant says. "He's the best comedy writer in upstate New York. He'll probably be sneaking hand-written copy to people who visit him in the hospital, so they can bring it to the studio."

Like other morning people, Downes and Merchant provide weather, news, time and school-closings. But they give those things character. Or should that be characters?

—To be continued

# BANDSCAN

John R. Malicky

995 Shadycrest Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15216

## CARTAGENA COLOMBIA BAND SCAN

Harold Frodge - Midland Michigan -- Receiver: Sangean ATS-801 w/built-in ferrite coil. Location: Cartagena Colombia; latitude 10.5 deg. N approx. 700 mi. north of the equator, longitude 76 deg. W approx. same as NYC. Conditions were scattered clouds w/nearby lightning every night but one.

- 540 Two dominant stations: Radio Horizonte HJKA Bogota w/MOR vocals and many semi-classical instrumentals (0320/26-Sep/Fair) 2nd is Radio Topicana HCFA2 Guayaquil Ecuador w/tropicales y salsa; call ID & nx @0400 (0320/26-Sep/Fair) Each in/out about equally.
- 550 Radio Reloj HCGM1 Quito Ecuador "El Espectador Alegria...Radio Reloj"; upbeat tropicales w/Andean touch well o/QRM (0401/26-Sep/Fair+)
- 560 EE rlg px heard w/"Bless Jamaica"; assumed to be JBC Radio 1 Kingston Jamaica: o/Unid SS QRM (0405/26-Sep/Good-)
- 570 Classical mx heard o/Unid SS & EE rlg px; assumed to be Radio Nacional de Colombia HJND Bogota (0408/26-Sep/Good-)
- 580 Nothing dominant; two stations heard are unidentified EE rlg px and SS pop-style vocals; each equally in/out (0414/26-Sep/Poor)
- 590 Radio Reloj CMCA La Julia Cuba heard w/OM-nx w/pips & CW "RR" o/QRM (0432/26-Sep/Good)
- 600 Dominant station is Radio Libertad HJHJ Barranquilla Colombia; OM w/remote px w/EZL & Andean vocals, many IDs. Apparently having power problems as quickly appears and disappears (0434/26-Sep/Fair+) During RL QSB, Radio Rebelde CMKA Urbano Noria Cuba heard w/game broadcast.
- 610 Radio Tequendama HJKL Bogota w/mix of baseball game coverage and mx/tx. Michael Jackson songs after each ad/promo; ad/Colona (0225/27-Sep/Fair) Also hear CW "RR"; assumed to be Radio Reloj CMGI Trinidad Cuba and EE stn., assumed to be WIOD Miami FL.
- 620 Radio Ciudad de Cartagena HJBP w/cumbias. Local but QSB occasionally to unid SS QRM (0235/27-Sep/Good-)
- 630 Tentatively Radio Manizales HJFD; Colombian YL/OM w/discussion of the Olympics (0237/27-Sep/Poor)
- 640 Dominant station is Radio Progreso CMBB Guanabacoa Cuba; OM/SS ancr w/MOR EE pop vocals; ID/"Radio Progreso Cadena Nacional" (0306/27-Sep/Fair) o/Radio Cadena Nacional HJBJ Santa Marta Colombia w/political discussion.
- 650 Dominant station is Emisora Monserrate HJKH Bogota w/tropicales y cumbias & ads (0345/27-Sep/Fair-) o/WSM Nashville TN ad/"Opryland Hotel" (0345/27-Sep/Poor)
- 660 Two Unid Colombians fighting it out; many mentions of Barranquilla, tropicales, possible Caracol ID; Radio Uno HJJM Cali Colombia likely in there. Both strong to zilch--more down than up (2354/27-Sep/Fair-) Heard w/tropicales & ID/"Esta es Antena Dos. Radio Cadena Nacional Cali" HJJM Cali (0336/28-Sep/Good)
- 670 Radio El Sol HJPL Medellin Colombia w/tropicales, o/u similar stn. ID/Antena Dos RCN...R/ El Sol", not //660. Anthem a/off @0400; leaves Unid SS rlg px stn. (0345/28-Sep/Fair)
- 680 Unidentified Colombian--heard this one many times usually strong but never any kind of ID--one px starts immediately after another ends. Possibly a Radio Nacional de Colombia station. Pxing included classical mx, lectures on mathematics & physics, romanticism, feature on the family, etc. Not heard early in the morning, only in the evening (2228/28-Sep/Good) Weak DRM is LA mx & EE stns.

- 690 Two dominant stations here--La Voz de Colombia HJ CZ Bogota: OM w/Olympic update; ad/Wimpy's (0414/28-Sep/Fair-) La Voz de los Andes HCJB1 Quito Ecuador, YL w/socio-political cmtry & mx de Ecuador (0414/28-Sep/Fair+) Each equally in/out.
- 700 Radio Sucre HCRS2 Guayaquil Ecuador o/mucho QRM w/tropicales. Promo/"Estrella Internacional" (0406/29-Sep/Fair)
- 710 Radio Rebelde CMBC Arroyo Arenas Cuba w/EZL & lite SS pop vocals; ID/"Rebelde"; o/SS QRM (0408/29-Sep/Good)
- 720 Probably Emisora Unidas HJAN Barranquilla: weak Colombian w/tropicales (0425/29-Sep/Poor)
- 730 Radio Melodia HJCU Bogota w/meringues; ID/"Radio Melodia gusta, gusta mas"; QSB to zilch (0434/29-Sep/Fair)
- 740 Nothing readable here
- 750 Caracol HJDK Medellin Colombia: OM/SS w/SA & world nx; o/u YL/EE w/pop mx, possibly WSB Atlanta GA (0455/29-Sep/Fair)
- 760 RCN HJAJ Barranquilla Colombia: OM w/nx cmtrys & remotes; ad/Presidente cigarettes; ID/Radio Colombia...RCN" (2345/29-Sep/Good)
- 770 RCN HJKH Bogota //760, OM/nx (2349/29-Sep/Fair+)
- 780 Ecos del Torbes YVOD San Cristobal Venezuela (1st YV noted!); OM w/sports px & remotes (2351/29-Sep/Good-)
- 790 La Voz de Colombia HJDC Medellin; MOR SS vocals; IDs/"Caracol, mas compania" y "Exito, exito en La Voz de Colombia"; QSB to zilch (2357/29-Sep/Fair+) o/Cuban Radio Reloj CMAD Pinar Del Rio w/OM-cmtry & CW "RR"; "Radio Reloj" ID (2357/29-Sep/Poor)
- 800 Nothing readable here
- 810 Radio Sutatenza HJCY Bogota Colombia; YL w/cmtry re Africa, not //680 stn. u//820 splash (0007/30-Sep/Poor)
- 820 Radio Bolivar HJAD Cartagena Colombia; Feature px on Olympia grocery stores, including a special song and mucho discussion about the company. Ads/"Postobon" (a local soft drink) and "Olympia Supertiendas" (0014/30-Sep/Excellent)
- 830 Covered by 820 splash
- 840 Unid OM/SS covered by 820 splash
- 850 Caracol HJKC Bogota Colombia; OM;a w/very animated sports px; ID/"Colombia Caracol"; o/SS QRM (0233/30-Sep/Good-)
- 860 Radio Vision 860 YVOL San Cristobal Venezuela w/variety LA mx and La Voz de Canaguare HJNJ Valledupar Colombia w/game bc not //850 Both equally in/out (0237/30-Sep/Fair-)
- 870 Dominant is La Voz de Tolima HJLA Ibague Colombia; OM w/game bc //850; ID/"Caracol"; o/QRM (0248/30-Sep/Good-) Also heard Mar Caribe HJSB Barranquilla Colombia w/tropicales y campesino mx; ad/cafe & Olympia (0248/30-Sep/Fair-)
- 880 Real mess here--possibly Radio Bucaramanga HJGE w/SS rlg px
- 890 Real mess but noted Radio Galeon HJPM Santa Marta Colombia w/lcl nx o/possible La Voz de Colombia HJCE Bogota (0009/1-Oct/Poor)
- 900 Dominant station is Radio Progreso CMKB Cacocua Cuba; YL/SS ancr w/all Stevie Wonder vocals; YL/nx "Reportero R-P" @0252 (0213/1-Oct/Fair-) o/two Colombians w/tropicales; possibly Todolar HJDO Cali and Radio Malecon HJSS Monteria.
- 910 Covered by 920 splash.
- 920 Emisora Fuentes HJAE Cartagena Colombia; OMA w/softball game coverage; ad/"Hotel Cabana" (0258/1-Oct/Excellent)
- 930 Covered by 920 splash.



- 940 At least four different stations fighting it out--WINZ Miami FL w/CBS & FL nx; Radio Reloj CMDI Colon Cuba w/CW "RR" and Radio Echo HJGB Cali Colombia w/mostly emtrys o/otra SS (0301/1-Oct/all poor)
- 950 Caracol HJFN Pereira Colombia; "Deportes del Momento" ex px (0310/1-Oct/Good) o/very weak Cuban, Radio Reloj CMGD Sancti-Spiritus w/CW "RR" only heard.
- 960 Radio San Sebastian YVSR San Cristobal Venezuela: ID/"Radio San Sebastian...buena radio..." long energetic promo to disco beat tropicales; deep but brief QSB (0315/1-Oct/Fair+) o/Cuban, Radio Reloj CMFD Cienfuegos w/MOR SS vocals and CW "RR": listed at 1 KW, but seems stronger here; otra SS heard.
- 970 Radio Super HJCI Bogota: many ads, ad/Mr. Hay manucures; ID/"Radio Super...Cadena Super Super HJCI...en Bogota" (0320/1-Oct/Poor)
- 980 Covered by 1000 splash.
- 990 Covered by 1000 splash.
- 1000 RCN HJAG Cartagena Colombia: sports tx px, all w/echo effect. (0327/1-Oct/Excellent)
- 1010 Covered by 1000 splash.
- 1020 Radio Primavera HJDY Bucaramanga Colombia w/tropicales o/GRM (0408/1-Oct/Poor+)
- 1030 La Voz de los Libertadores HJDJ Duitama Colombia: "En la noche, las estrellas": "En Colombia, Antena Dos": tropicales y cumbias; anthem @0456 and off @0457; o/otra Colombian (0412/1-Oct/Fair)

## Tuning Out The Tube And Tuning in To Radio

IT SURELY MUST be a sign of growing old. Or perhaps I'm just getting feeble-minded. Whatever it is, I occasionally find myself longing for old-fashioned ways. Since I'm only 31, and my wife would kill me, I have not yet seriously considered selling all my worldly possessions and moving to a log cabin in Northern Ontario.

But I did decide on a cold Sunday night in March to do something I haven't done for a long time—listen to hockey on the radio.

I've always thought that the only people listening to radio games are those who can't be in front of their television.

Where I live (suburban Toronto), there is an incredible variety of hockey on the tube. In fact, during the week of March 14, there was a televised game every day.

Monday it was Montreal at Minnesota on The Sports Network; Tuesday it was Toronto at Quebec on CHCI; Wednesday it was Toronto at Pittsburgh on CHCI; Thursday it was Chicago at Philadelphia on TSN; Friday it was the Islanders at Washington on Global; Saturday it was the Rangers at Toronto on Hockey Night in Canada; and Sunday it was Washington at New Jersey on CFMT and York against Western in the Canadian university final on CTV.

If I had a tower antenna, I'd have been able to get Buffalo at Edmonton on Tuesday and Buffalo at Boston on Saturday. I do not wish to consider the endless possibilities—divorce among them—if I had a satellite dish.

As wonderful a medium as television is, I decided on that Sunday night to make like an oldtimer, dim the lights, light a fire, prepare my favorite libation and stretch out on the couch—just me and my radio.

I wasn't sure what, if any, games I would pick up. I knew only that I was looking at this as an adventure, secretly hoping that the cozy surroundings and an open mind would take me on some sort of magical mystery tour of the NHL.

I wasn't disappointed. I started at the bottom of the dial. My first contact was established at 660, WNBC out of New York City. Mike Emrick, filling in for Marv Albert, and Sal Messina were doing the Ranger-Whaler game from Madison Square Garden.

Moving on, I heard another New York City station tell me that traffic at Lincoln Tunnel was



Bob McKenzie

backed up and three teenage girls had robbed and threatened to kill a 90-year-old woman in her New York apartment.

Having had quite enough of New York by this point, I hit the 900s and a game—Junior C playoffs—between the Port Perry (Ont.) Mo-jacks and Lakefield (Ont.) Chiefs. The Mo-jacks led 4-0 at the end of one.

Next I came upon WBN out of Buffalo, where Sabre broadcasters Rick Jeanneret and Jim Lorentz told me it was 4-0 for the Boston Bruins. Mike Foligno made it 4-1 while I was listening.

But between there and the end of the dial, there wasn't a hockey game to be found. Back

down I went.

I came across a great old radio show from 1951—Harry Morgan and Vincent Prince in the Straw Hat Shakedown episode of the FBI series—but I was stalking hockey.

I hit the motherlode. Dan Kelly and Ken Wilson calling the Blues' game at the Stadium in Chicago. Hartford's Chuck Kaiton and Mark Reeds doing the Ranger-Whaler contest. Pat Foley and Dale Tallon doing the Blackhawks' broadcast of the St. Louis-Chicago game. More of Jeanneret and Lorentz doing the Sabres-Bruins, plus an interview with Sabre Uwe Krupp and a play-by-play of the Buffalo Zamboni driver missing the opening and crashing into the boards.

By the way, the Chiefs came back in the second period to tie the Mo-jacks 4-4. But it was all in vain. Port Perry scored three in the third to win the game 7-4, and the best-of-seven series 4-0.

Then I did what I'm sure the fans in Lakefield had already done. I called it a night.

It was, all in all, a wonderful change of pace, a welcome break from TV. I'll have to do it again sometime.

THE HOCKEY NEWS — APRIL 1, 1988

--via Andy Rugg

**WANTED: A few GOOD voices! If you presently work in radio, or have worked in radio, and you have some spare time once per month, the NRC's DX Audio Service could use your help. DXAS needs several people to voice short articles and stories on tape for the blind. Any help would be appreciated, and you will be sent a copy of the current DXAS for your trouble. Anyone interested should contact Fred Vobbe - NRC's DX Audio Service - 706 MacKenzie Avenue - Lima, OH 45805-1835.**

## Travels with Malicky ...

bucolic peregrinations and perambulations ... by John Malicky



"Serving Northwestern Ohio Day & Night" claim my second visit WFOB-1430/FM 96.7 (though changed as of July 3rd to WBVI-FM), located 3 miles south of Fostoria, Ohio along route 23. Just off US route 224 and 13 miles east of Findlay, "Northwest Ohio's Sound Companion" utilizes a 3 tower array situated behind the station pushing 2 U4 patterns towards Toledo. Back in March, a new Harris MWLA replaced the now standby Gates BCL1A. Using 3 kw, the FM's is tower is 4 miles from WFOB and sends a strong signal into Findlay. WFOB also serves Bowling Green, Ohio with an auxiliary studio, though when the sky worsens, the signal is not heard as well there. As for music, both stations use the "Contempo 300" AC format provided by Drake-Chenault though the AM, which is now on 24 hours as of July 3rd, uses a somewhat softer sound than the FM, but with very little difference. First on the air in 1946, WFOB-FM had their studios in downtown Fostoria. Six years later, on December 9th, they were hoined by the AM and because of the space needed for the towers, the operations moved to the present site in the same year. Many years later on September 10, 1977, their building was destroyed by fire due to an air conditioning malfunction. However, within 3 days area stations helped WFOB get back on the air as a mobile trailer was shipped in for the studios. By late 1978 and early '79, the whole operation moved into a new permanent ranch type home that is 20 feet longer than the old building. Unfortunately, just prior to the move, the staff had to endure what is commonly called around here as "The Blizzard of '78", brutal weather conditions recalls PD Gus Sierra. How bad was it? Well, the weather was so bad, it prompted WDLR-Delaware to put out a b/s saying "We beat the blizzard of '78!" Only Mr. Sierra and senior announcer Allen Gabel are here today as CE Dave Smith and GM Gene Kinn, who sent my directions, are off. Now under the title of Northwest Radio Limited, the stations were previously owned by Seneca Radio Corp., Melvin Murray, President. Though he did see a brief mention about the NRC Convention in a Lima publication with an invitation to come, Mr. Sierra said he didn't understand or know anything else about it. Before leaving, my curiosity is answered as to why the station has a 5 foot black wooden "owl" in front along the roadside. The reasons are because of an old program called "The Night Owl Show" and the original owner collected fake owls, of course!



The serene flat rural landscape of northeast Ohio is dominated by farm land as the journey continues to Tiffin, Ohio, home to WTTF-1600/FM 103.7, "The Voice of Seneca County." Occupying the first floor of a white 2 story storefront building at 185 South Washington Street downtown, the station is marked by a classy blue painted sign. Separated by a long creaky hallway is the reception area, containing many awards and 2 old Zenith and Airline receivers, and the studios. At the board running both stations is young Tracy Holcomb. She mentions that, "the owners (Richard & Bob Wright) have been simulcasting WTTF for 20 years and even though they have thought about splitting the two, they decided against it." Two years ago, WTTF went live-assist with what the stations call, "The Music You Love", which is a blend of BBD/EZL. Their programming on 4 large reels is entitled "The Great Ones" and comes from John Peters Productions of California. For this Labor Day, WTTF is playing music that "Salutes the Working People Today." Their other features include music from the 50s & 60s on "Saturday at the Oldies", 5 daily Agri reports, Ae News, Paul Harvey, the "Farm & Home Show", a daily 1/2 hour popular call-in show "Sound Off", and "Radio." Also home to Heidelberg College, Tiffin is the county seat. So what the 500 watt daytime signal doesn't cover, the 50kw signal makes up the difference spreading into 12 counties. Located about 7 miles from the station, the transmitter and tower are on West County Road 48. The first day of operation for WTTF came on December 19, 1959 and was joined by the FM 14 years later. Soon, accompanied by his wife, Robert Gilligan, full time operator and sports reporter, stops in to check on some business. As color analyst, Bob and fellow play-by-play announcer Jack Kagy call the games of 3 local teams, 2 HS and Heidelberg College. All very interested in the club and DX, they extend an invitation to return to Tiffin's favorite radio station.



North Central Ohio's total radio

Heading south on routes 100 and 4, this traveler next finds the voices of Bucyrus', WBCO-1540/WBCQ-92.7 "Q-92", in another of Ohio's small quiet towns. A few blocks from the center of town along their tree-lined street, the stations occupy an old impressive "stately" Victorian home marked by a red and white call board in the front yard. Even one of the employee's business card folds open to show a picture of her and the home! About 24

miles southwest of town is the tower as the 500 watt DJ signal extends between Fremont and Marion, Ohio. Calling from Tiffin at 12:15 as her letter mentioned of being at the station until 1 PM, it was disappointing not to see another Pittsburgh native, WBCO NxD Pamela S. Koch, as she had already left for the day. Pam had wrote only part-timers would be here with little time for visitors. However, things are slow and having some time is young Kelly Casto, the incoming TrFD, who's replacing the outgoing TrFD Mariann Sack who's leaving the station in 2 weeks. Today, Mariann is catching up on some taping, but wished she had this day off, sigh! Complete with stained glass windows, much of the interior still has that "home" charm with a living room reception area and a large kitchen where the staff holds birthdays and parties. To the left of the front door is an opening in the wall where the office or telemarketing room exists. Upstairs is the production room and studios where SpSd Jim Radke is on duty at both stations. Automated until 9 AM, the nearly 25 year old WBCO, an "EOE" as stated in their hourly ID, features light AC, CBS News, and OSU FB. Automated after 9 AM, WBCQ, soon to become WQEL, presents "Quality Easy Listening" programming along with Indians BB and "Radio & Radio" nx. The company that supplies tapes is Radio Programming & Management of Southfield, MI. For today, WBCO is running the "Spirit of Summer '87" from CBS and is proud to be the first AM Stereo station in the area. Owned by Thomas Moore under the title "SA-MOR", the stations employ a total of 20 people. So remember that at "North Central Ohio's Total Radio" stations, they "invite you to visit us!"

SERVING THE  
HEART OF OHIO

**WWRN**  
AND  
**FM-107**

"Serving the Heart of Ohio" from their studios on the northern fringe of Marion, Ohio just off route 4 is WWRN-1490/FM 106.9. Surrounded by a wooden fence and several acres of property, 2 sets of call signs, a board on the front lawn and letters atop the porch, mark the one story brick building. It's the original home as the AM first signed on December 23, 1940. While both transmitters are separated from the building, their 340 foot tower looms large right behind WWRN. On the way here, a couple of innings of a Pirate win over the Cubs was heard on KDKA. At present on WWRN, the Indians are just closing out a loss to Seattle. In the center of the station are the studios. At the board for both stations is Chris Winn, an Ashland College junior majoring in Radio & Communications. Chris relates that his goal someday is to be in management. Following the game, he runs the program "Discovering Tomorrow." In between breaks, a couple of mistakes occur possibly due to my presence disrupting his concentration, but Chris denies I have anything to do with it! The usual programming of WWRN is over 35 mor along with Mutual nx and sports including, besides baseball, HS, Ohio St., and Cleveland Browns FB. On the FM, it's live-assisted country from Drake-Chenault. Now just before 6 PM, Chris is replaced on the AM side for the next hour by "Tradio" hosted by Will Beard, a student at Ohio State-Marion. Somewhat unusual these days, a blue light bulb on the wall directly facing the operator lights when he's on the air. Will's assumption that no one may call because of the holiday is almost true and remarks, "it's going to be a very long hour!" Correcting my Log Book, I'm surprised to learn from Chris that WWRN's listed v/s, CE F.J. Peters, just passed away 2 weeks ago! Outside before departing, from a box inside my car, Chris is shown a Niel Wolfish October 20, 1986 logging of WWRN in DDXD. As Niel's first report went unanswered, a note is left to GM Tom Hamilton to please verify his report.

**WGLX**  
1570  
**WQLX**  
102.3

Northeast off route 309 and two miles north of Galion, Ohio on Brant Road is the complete facility of WGLX-1570/WQLX-102.3 in their large mobile home. As early evening approaches, thickening gray clouds form possibly containing rain, so this becomes the last visit for the day. Off to the side in a field are the 4 towers, three for the AM with a height of 167 feet just shy of a 1/4 wave and a 330' BRI FM with 4 bays. "As tower height is important for FM, ground conductivity is most important for AM, though around here it's mediocre," mentions Owner & Pres. Ray Malone, a past v/s from Dec '81. Formerly a daytimer and now

because of the Mexican Agreement, WGLX operates with 250 watts day and night using the same directional pattern beamed southeast towards Mt. Vernon, Ohio. The transmitters include a CSI for the AM and an AEL Collins exciter for the FM. However, a different twist, and another first, to this meeting of Mr. Malone is on the phone at his station! Calling from town earlier, Robert Cannon, is pleased to have a visitor and gave the idea to call the owner. A graduate of Snecs Howard School of Communications in Detroit and native of Ann Arbor, MI, WGLX is Robert's first start in radio and he has been here 3 months. As at some of the other stations today, Robert's also running both operations spinning the CHR carts on FM and watching over the live-assisted "Your Place in the Country" AM format with tapes from Concept Productions. Later, SpSd Brad Shupe comes in to check on some paperwork and is surprised by the unexpected visitor. In all, WGLX employs a full and part time staff of 14. Just over 15 years ago in August, 1972, WGLX began operations with the FM signing on 2 years later. In late December '75, Mr Malone began to acquire the station entering into an agreement

with Hugh Gray. As Mr. Gray passed away in early '76, the sale went through as the transaction was completed from his estate. Very talkative on many other things including directions to tomorrow's first 2 visits, Mr. Malone, without hesitation, agrees to a DX test tentatively arranged on November 21. Unfortunately, even with a f/up note to remind him, the test at this writing never occurs. Now at night, in unfamiliar territory, residence is eventually found at the Jefferson Place Motel in Galion with a spacious room, efficiency, and phone to speak with a friend of Mr. Malone's, Bill Bowen CE of WBCO, WWRN, and WCLW-Newark. The following morning at WGLX, I still do not meet their owner, but in appreciation of at least coming, the secretary presents me with a coffee mug!

**WVNO**  
FM 106  
**WRGM**  
AM 1440

Still cloudy, though rain free on a September 8th Tuesday morning, today's visits begin at a new AM station, having just taken to the air on July 17, WRGM-1440 joining with their sister, WVNO-106.1. Situated in and licensed to Ontario, Ohio, WRGM also serves Mansfield just east of here. With BEAU/EZL music, the station is, naturally, fully automated. A Sharper Image computer, with digital delay, runs the 4 tapes provided by Radio Programming Management and allows previously recorded voice tracks to be played in their proper time slots. WRGM also presents community events at a 1/4 past and to the hour, local news and wx updates in morning & evening drives, and ABC nx. Stretching southeast and northwest to the Indiana line, the 1000 watt daytimer's directional pattern mainly protects WRR0-Warren, Ohio. Fully convinced that, "there was a need for this kind of music in our area," is a hospitable PD Grant Campbell who is glad someone is interested in their station and likes AM Stereo of which WRGM provides. Also extending greetings is SlsM Glenn Cheesman, GM Guenther Maise, and my v/s, OpM Jim Holmes, who confirmed a report taken while at the hotel in Galion. As both transmitters are at the station, each operation also shares a production room. Later with permission, the only way to see WRGM's 6 tower system, in pairs of threes all 180 feet high, is by driving on a new rocky gravel road 1/2 mile behind the station. On the road next to the clearing where the towers are located, a deer hops out of the woods, stops, then runs off! I guess the deer didn't want its picture taken-hi! Except when they're live in AM & PM drives, WVNO's live-assisted "Lite Rock" format comes from The Programming Consultants of Albuquerque. For local spots on both stations, they use an IGM Instacart system, built in the early '70s, which is 3 rows of 4 carts and is preferred over the now back-up and, "very undependable and obsolete (Carosel) system made in the mid 60s." With their FM tower off to the side, it's time to say farewell to the new AM and the 25 year old FM whose call marks the large complex at 2900 Park Avenue West along route 309.

WMAN/WYHT • BOX 8 • 1400 RADIO LANE

**WMAN**  
RADIO 14  
WYHT  
**Y-105**  
MANSFIELD, OHIO 44901 • 419/524-2211

Just past the 4th Street exit off routes 30/309 across from Arlin Field in a small depression is Mansfield, Ohio's news and information source WMAN-1400/WYHT-105.3. Here at another one story complex, PD John Foster mentions the stations are in the midst of remodeling that includes a new reception area and the moving of sales and traffic offices to the, previously empty, basement. It's to accommodate expanded operations for their new station, "Y-105", after the demise of nearby competitors WCLW-1140/FM 105.3. This all came about when after 30 years, WCLW owners Fred & Beatrice Eckardt finally gave up their business and retired signing off their stations in July and ceasing full operations August 3rd. Subsequently, the FM and WCLW's physical plant were sold to Harrison Fuerst, WMAN's owner under the title of Treasure Radio Inc. Mr. Fuerst, who also owns other radio media including Akron's WSLR, converted the FM, but could not have the AM since one can not own 2 AM properties in the same area. Thus WCLW-AM went off the air. With the added space at the other station, WMAN has been able to store old records and tapes there while throwing away some of their own old equipment, i.e. chairs, typewriters, etc. Also, some technical changes will occur as WMAN plans to move their main Gates BCLH to WCLW, leave one of the 4 towers at the old site up, and install a STL. As of now, WMAN uses their tower adjacent to the station while Y-105 uses the WCLW FM tower and the Gates 50 kw main transmitter and a new backup Harris 3.5 kw. Commencing operations in December, 1939, WMAN's original studios were above the Renaissance Theatre in downtown Mansfield with the present studios used only for the transmitter site. Then almost 40 years later in May '78, WMAN moved all operations here. As a full service station, WMAN features live AC, Ai nx, extensive local coverage (staffed with 3 full time and 1 part time news people), Larry King as of August, and sports including local HS, Ohio St., and Browns FB, & Indians BB. WMAN even has local talk shows including "Conversation", "You're on the Air", & "Sportswrap" (from 6-7 PM Thurs) all taking place in a converted production studio. Having been replaced by current CE Dave Henry is my v/s from Aug '81, CE Bill Morrison. Also live is "Mansfield's New FM" as 9-2 PM host Chris Casale, after stints in Ohio at

Alliance's "Q-92" and Canton's WRCA & ex-WYNY, came here when WYHT signed on. Now a surprise encounter occurs with Y-105's MxD Bob Dickey. Previously employed by WCLW, Bob was my v/s for both of those stations 3 years ago! He says that while WCLW-FM had AC/CHR, "kids really didn't have a station to listen to before," but on CHR Y-105, they do now and can even request songs. Meeting just about all of the staff, including Sps. Jeff Allan and part-time nx reporter/recent Ashland College grad Toni Fox, this enjoyable visit comes to a close.



Off to another duty, but sparing a few minutes, Bob Dickey provides an interesting tour at Mansfield's old WCLW. It's another first to see a station that's gone silent! Located a few blocks north of WMAN amongst residential homes, there's an overwhelmingly strange feeling here as everything (paners, books, desks, etc.) is intact. It's as though there was a bomb scare and everyone left the station with only an eerie emptiness remaining. A musty smell fills the inside of closets containing folders and papers. Bob says some things may be kept including a sign advertising WCLW's "Happy Sound" on 1570 will soon move "on 1140 kc." The last highlight before departing is seeing the old main AM Gates that actually contains Russian made tubes!

At the southwest edge of Ashland, Ohio in their original building that's retained part of its history lies one of the state's very first FM stations joined by its sister, WNCO-1340/FM 101.3. Since May, 1947, identified by diagonally white letters on a front extension, the 2 year older FM is within reach via a long driveway as the facility can be seen along route 42 east. Along with a 10' x 30' record collection containing over 2,000 country albums, there's a converted hallway with reminders of yesteryear when it was part of a large room used for live broadcasts of several church choirs and the Ashland Symphony! Within the hall are uniquely interesting white tiled acoustical "curved" walls as each section, with a different radius to reduce echoes, resembles half-barrels. As the curvature of side walls run vertically, end walls curve horizontally. In another area into the past are 2 old receivers and a microphone atop a large trophy case. One receiver, a Firestone, has buttons to tune in Chicagoland stations (WIND, WGN, WMAQ, WCFL, & WJJD) and a manual knob while the second is homemade and built by WNCO's first engineer. First known as WATG-FM and owned by the Ashland Times-Gazette, WNCO is sometimes referred to as "Wonderful North Central Ohio." When the paper sold the stations, ownership changed hands several times before finally settling with a group of 4 men in March, '65. Under the title of the Ashland Broadcasting Corporation, that group now consists of 3, P/GM Walt Stampfli, a local banker Bob Mayo, and a former Cleveland Brown Ross Feather. The 4th member and former Cleveland Indian announcer Bob Neal passed away. Presently, 17 and 4 part time personnel are employed here. One of those personnel is CE Wayne A. Pick, my v/s for a most recent reception of the FM. Standing behind WNCO are 2 towers, one self-supporting, the other a 405' guyed as atop it is an ERL model FMH 5 bay system. About 15 years ago, the FM became a Class B 50,000 watt as coverage extends a few miles further than the AM's between Wooster and Massillon. Feeding them is a 4 year old Harris MW-1A with a Circuit Research Labs AM 4 audio processor while the FM has an Elcom-Bauer model 625. Six years ago in an effort to increase space, the transmitters were moved further out in an enclosed addition. On the FM transmitter and on all stationary is a waving flag symbolizing the FM's "All-American" live country format. IDing as "Ashland-Mansfield", on the AM side, it's SMN's Stardust, plus nx from Mutual, & Agri reports. In the DX files, though mine for the AM is absent(hi!), are past reports including those of NRCers Chatterton, Geary, & Paige! Outside, there's a promotional van, formerly a Park-n-Fly, that is used for FM remotes and travels to fairs in 7 counties. As the sun finally breaks through the overcast, I've made an accidental error of exposing part of the film from the first roll and will later discover this was an untimely mistake. Somewhat unusual, also outside, one feels they're in a used car lot as an intercom blares out the country music breaking often for messages including a special one from the staff, "thanks very much for coming today John!"



Sitting in a small plain off the crest of a hill near route 30 eastbound is Wooster, Ohio's very own WWST-960/WQKT-104.5 located about 2 miles southeast of town. Housed in a flat one story building with a wooden exterior, the station at a distance is screened by 2 large trees in their rustic frontyard. Inside, an extra copy of the local Daily Record is free courtesy of GM Ken Nemeth. Working on the side as a printer, in the FM studio and running both stations is John Myers, a 35 hour a week employee who's been here for 10 years. Handing over a recent FM report, as the AM is unheard, to Mr. Nemeth, then playing a taped reception for the staff, all are surprised of how distant the FM traveled,



especially John remarking, "you got us in Pittsburgh?!" Two months from now, PD Alan Lang becomes my v/s. During the FM's daily country music from SMN, John has the option of inserting a local "liner" at the tone, now at 3:05 PM, or return to the network. He opts for the latter, but can later take breaks at :20, :32, :40, &/or :50 past the hour. At most stations, DJs/operators don't mind a visitor's presence asking to "stand by", but here, like it was at Lima's WZOQ-FM, John asks if I can leave the studio when he goes live. I assume it's station policy and/or whatever the person feels comfortable with. No live breaks on the AM side as it's all live-assist REL mx from Century 21 of Dallas' "Sacred Sounds" series. However, 4 years ago, the CHR AM and EZL FM simulcasted during local news. A DL WWST's pssa for this month after 7:45 PM is 121 watts, then to 32 watts an hour later, and s/off at 9:45. Both having been on since Sept, 1947, they use Harris as the main transmitters. In awhile at 5:15 PM, John will break from the network to host WQKT's daily sports show, "One on One", along with an ex-coach whose been involved in sports most of his life, Roy Bates. One of Mr. Bates' highlight was as an assistant to Indiana U. basketball coach Bobby Knight during their '81 NCAA Championship season and was credited by one of the star players and now a Detroit Piston, Issiah Thomas, as having the most input for them winning the title. Very opinionated when it comes to any sports topic or person, Mr. Bates often shares his off-beat stories and biting commentaries on the show as he's done for the past 39 years. Also an Ohio St. affiliate, sports-minded WQKT has carried Indians BB for all of their 40 years, longer than any other Indian affiliate and flagship! Two months from now, I'll help John by providing him with a copy from a list of OSU affiliates from WBNS. Surprisingly still playing a game that I played as a kid, called "Strat-o-Matic", in a baseball league of 4 people is Account Exec Bruce Brown! His working day over, Bruce now leads the way to the route 3 exit as I hope there's time for one last visit.



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Although there's some light left, this day is over as far as visiting as the decision was not made by this DXer, but by Mike Green, GM of WWVO-1300/ex WWVO, now WQIO-93.7. Able to come to the front door and as a small consolation offering 2 "Super Q" plastic cups, he says everyone has either left or is in meetings. At this point, the visit almost really doesn't matter having seen so many stations, but it would have been nice to briefly stop in and also meet PD Ron Staats who was referred by WJEH. IDing as "NX/TLK Radio", WWVO also has CNN nx and oldies as Mr. Staats' show, and his work day, ended at 6 PM, a 1/2 hour before my arrival. In the parking lot is the CHR FM's Q-Van. The complete ranch type facility, including a TV 13, is located atop a large hill along route 36 four miles east of downtown Mt. Vernon, Ohio. The town itself is even famous as the home of 2 entertainers, the late comedian Paul Lynde and actor Paul Newman. Told by someone on another visit tomorrow that WWVO spent \$1 million to revamp their station, they also "always have their noses up in the air!" Nearing the shopping center-filled valley below, I can see in my side and rear view mirrors the station's 2 towers, standing like beacons, fading in the distance.

Now, a different kind of visit, that I really had no idea of how it was to unwind is about to occur. With just enough light provided by a picturesque setting sun, more than 75 miles of driving on Ohio routes 661, 62, 37, & 310 leave me within 15 miles east of Columbus. The trip is the end of an almost complete circle in central Ohio that began last Thursday! Finally all this effort pays off upon meeting Mr. James Feasel, the ex CE and second v/s to my first report to WYNO! When he learned of my trip from a thank-you letter last month, Jim sent directions to his home after I'd have left WLOH-Lancaster last Thursday, but I knew this wouldn't happen because I was with Paul. He's a bit surprised, but still pleased I could come. Much like, but better than any station tour, his nice large ranch style home is 3/4 of a mile from Jersey, Ohio along semi-rural Morse Road, licensed/addressed to Pataskala. The staff includes his wife Betty and their 2 curious cats. Outside, as his 90' tower will attest, Jim is a ham & TV DXer, in addition to his current position as electronics instructor at OSU-Newark. Downstairs in his own little studio and office, there's his "collection", books & guides on radio, old transmitters, receivers including a functional HQ-180, boards, and the like. I've even increased Jim's interest to join the NRC with some back copies of DXN. Surprised and somewhat shocked by WCLW's demise, Jim knew of the family ownership, said when operations began on 1570 an old police transmitter was used, and even notes that WNCO went bankrupt! Another true story is of Eaton, Ohio's 250 watt WCTM-1130 that's run by one man, Stanley Conning, who considers the station his hobby and automates it 8-5 year 'round! In the early 50s, Jim's career as a CE began at WWVO, then Waverly, Ohio's WXIC ex-WPKO, WCOL, WMNI, WGLX, Heath's WHTH, and ended at WYNO. Including dinner and overnight accommodations, plus a helpful map to tomorrow's first 2 stops (WHTH & WCLT), Jim will see me off in the morning as the nicest visit on the whole trip ends, but the friendly contacts will go on! (note: Now in my possession, Jim has made a copy from his 1932 G.E. Radio Log book.)

# MUSINGS

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The opinions expressed in this column are those of the individual writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the editors, publisher, or the National Radio Club, Inc., or its subsidiaries. Times are local per Muse.

## RADIO FREE WARREN REPORTING

John H. Rose II - 26015 Thomas - Warren, MI 48091

The Skyline Drive and the Blue Ridge Parkway have always had a certain fascination for me, although today's travel is not on either.

In 1971 the better 68% of this relationship and I drove on The Skyline Drive and Blue Ridge Parkway from Mid NC to Front Royal Va. The fall colors were spectacular, although I am not sure. The fog and rain were thick enough at times to prevent seeing past the hood of the car. I thought there was a certain amount of adventure in this. She could only see having to repair the rent-a-heap. These thoughts went through my mind on 30 July 1987 as I headed west from the D.C. area toward Luray, VA via US 211. The route is marked on the map as a major one except for a few miles that are just a thin line. I knew what to expect and I was not dissappointed. It is a four lane road that suddenly narrows and starts to climb and twist, and I gear the transmission down, and it climbs and twists and folds back on itself, and I gear down again, and you get the picture. At the top the road goes under a bridge for the Skyline Drive and starts to fall and twist, and plummet and twist. I said to myself, why not listen from the top of the mountain instead of the valley? So I turned around and found a place to park near the entrance to the Drive. No picnic benches, so here I was on the ground again. The weather was threatening to rain, producing lots of static, and the no-see-em bugs were out in force. Still, a catch of 41 stations is not to be sneezed at. We will laugh at the few raindrops which did fall. In all of these bandscans I do not make an effort to DX for the really hard ones, the ones that are very near the atmospheric noise, partly because the TRF isn't up to doing Dead Serious work like my Collins, and it takes me about two hours to do what I do, and by that time I need a break. I am interested in what "typical reception" might look like from whatever location I choose. This is a beautiful one with ridges and peaks going off into the hazy distance forever. The target here is WAMM-1230 in Woodstock, VA about 20 miles north. To end the suspense, it did not come in. However, WOR-710 from N.Y. did. WKDW-900 was advertising for some people who would like to sell time on the station. Now that's what I call self promotion. WINC-1400 IDed as 82.5 WINC. WCVA-1490 is "your station for light hits and local information." There is a mystery on 1210 where I hear a weak signal with preaching and the direction is in a line with WTOP in D.C. Help?

Time to go back and most amazing thing happened. The road that went up so fast went down just as fast! And was fun! Hang on to your dialcord until we get together again.

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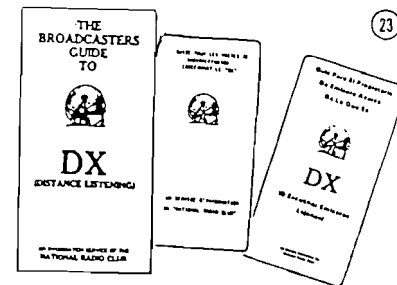
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