

DX News

Serving DX'ers since 1933



Volume 71, No. 28 - July 12, 2004 (ISSN 0737-1659)

Inside ...

- 2 .. AM Switch
- 10 .. DDXD
- 12 .. NRC 2004 Batavia

- 13 .. IDXD
- 15 .. Professional Sports Networks
- 21 .. DX'er's Notebook
- 22 .. KRKY and the Bulldozer
- 23 .. God Bless AM Radio

CPC Test Calendar

WRIB RI 1220 daily 0255-0305

From the Publisher ... The calendar says it's summer, even if it still feels like spring, and July is traditionally the time when I clean out the files, set the publishing schedule for next year, and in general get organized. Fred and I and the Board of Directors hope to have some discussions at this year's convention in Batavia as to the direction of the NRC and its activities, including DXN, DX Audio Service, the technically non-affiliated listerv and www.nrcdxas.org, other online activities, and in general the future of the club. So now is the time for members also to provide some input - and our own ombudsman, John Bowker (see back cover for address) is the person who will collect ideas and even try to solve some problems, so why not give some thought to improvements which you might suggest for the NRC and send them to John.

I still need a few odds and ends for DXN, too. I can always use copies of AM station logos (please, no FM-only, and originals are much preferred to photocopies), either on paper or electronic copies (TIFF is better than other formats for publication). And I'm afraid that most of the articles I receive are simply sent to the wrong person - as news about station changes should either be sent to Bill Hale (if they concern status changes) or to Wayne Heinen (for format changes). If you're considering sending in a radio-related article for publication, kindly ask yourself a few questions first: Should this article go to Wayne or Bill? Is it similar to other articles which have appeared previously in DXN ... like ones which deal with AM radio's impact on the industry, currently or historically ... or local stations which still provide full community service ... or unique stations, like one-owner, one-person operations ... or stations which have to deal with progress, either successfully or unsuccessfully ... highly unusual formats and the like? And finally, if the article has to be held for one year or more before it could be published, would it still be relevant to DXN readers?

In the wastebasket now are articles about station anniversaries, the deaths of station personali-

ties, new owners taking over a station, and time-value news stories about stations. Don't get me wrong: I enjoy reading all you send, but if you want to save yourself a stamp, be selective in what you send. A feature which fills a page or so (newspaper or DXN) probably has a better chance of eventually making into DXN than one which is only a paragraph or two long. Finally, if you do not provide the name of the publication, date of publication, and your name, I simply can't and won't use it - fair use dictates that the original publication be given credit.

DXN Publishing Schedule, Volume 71

Iss.	Deadline	Pub. Date	Iss.	Deadline	Pub. Date
29.	Aug. 6	Aug. 16	30.	Sept. 10	Sept. 20

DXN Publishing Schedule, Volume 72

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

DX Time Machine

From the pages of DX News:

50 years ago ... from the July 17, 1954 DXN: Hal Williams, Seymour, CT reported hearing CMK-1190, International Airport Radio, Havana, Cuba on 6-21, 0100 till 0157 s/off, broadcasting a program of popular and semi-classical music and English announcements by a woman, with WOWO-1190 silent.

25 years ago ... from the July 16, 1974 DXN: Minnie Pearl, "Howwwwwdeee!" and all, pleaded with Congress to keep WSM-650's signal clear in spite of proposals to open the clear channels to local stations.

AM Switch

Bill Hale w_r_hale@sbcglobal.net
6124 Roaring Springs Drive
North Richland Hills, TX 76180-5552

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

CALL LETTER CHANGES

Old Call	New Call	Comments
540 KSRK	CA Carmel Valley	KMEO (now Spanish talk format)
670 WRJR	VA Claremont	WPMH (see CPs on the air)
890 KQXI	ID Meridian	KDJQ (new station not yet on the air)
1010 WPMH	VA Portsmouth	WRJR
1060 WRCW	OH Canton	WBRE
1130 WCTM	OH Eaton	WEDI
1180 WJFF	RI Hope Valley	WCNX
1380 KPTK	OK Lawton	KXCA
1390 KZAR	AR Rogers	KFFK
1450 WSMQ	AL Bessemer	WZGX
1470 KVVZ	TX Abilene	KYYW
1550 WDLR	OH Delaware	WXOL (station has a CP to move to Westerville, OH)



CPs ON THE AIR

550 WSAU	WI Wausau	- CP for U4 15000/20000 is on the air.
570 WDNZ	NC Raleigh	- CP for U1 1000/52 is on the air.
590 KTIE	CA San Bernardino	- CP for U4 2000/1000 from a corrected coordinate location of N34-04-20 W117-17-52 is on. They still have another application pending for U4 2500/960.
620 KMJC	CA Mount Shasta	- CP for U1 1000/29 is on the air.
670 WPMH	VA Claremont	- CP to add nighttime service as U4 20000/3 is on the air.
670 WR2XJR	VA Portsmouth	- CP for N3 0/700 has been authorized to operate. This is an experimental synchronous station licensed to Chesapeake-Portsmouth Broadcasting Corporation (now WPMH) using 4 in-line towers at N36-4920 W76-26-38. These coordinates are the same as WRJR-1010, so we assume WR2XJR is dplexed into WRJR's array. Since 670 and 1010 have changed calls, we're not sure if this call will change too.
730 WSCC	SC Charleston	- CP for U5 5200/103 is now on the air.
910 KXEB	TX Frisco	- CP for their relocation here (ex: Sherman, Texas) with U4 1000/500 from a new tower site at N33-12-55 W96-53-56 is on.
920 WAFS	GA Atlanta	- CP to reduce night power by TWO Watts is in operation. They are now U1 5000/488.
950 WPET	NC Greensboro	- CP for U1 540/41 is on the air. [This corrects the state from what was printed last issue - Ed.]
950 KJR	WA Seattle	- CP for U4 50000/50000 from their new 3-tower site at N47-2600 W122-28-02 is on.
960 WPRT	KY Prestonsburg	- CP to reduce day power and add night service as U1 3800/13 at a new tower location of N37-38-46 W82-47-46 is on. [This corrects the state from what was printed last issue - Ed.]
960 WABG	MS Greenwood	- Coordinate adjustment to N33-33-18 W90-12-20.
970 KIAK	AK Fairbanks	- CP to raise power to become U1 10000/10000 is on the air.
1020 KWIQ	WA Moses Lake North	- CP for a decrease in day and night power levels along with a coordinate adjustment to become U5 2000/440 at N47-0948 W119-21-39 is on the air.
1130 WQFX	MS Gulfport	- CP to increase power to become D1 1000 is on the air.
1160 WMET	MD Gaithersburg	- Reports indicate this station has made the move from 1150 kHz. Facilities are U4 50000/1500.
1230 KWG	CA Stockton	- CP for U1 900/900 is on.
1290 WHKY	NC Hickory	- CP for U4 50000/1000 along with a coordinate adjustment of N35-43-35 W81-18-02 will be on the air shortly (maybe by the time you read this).

1300 WIMO	GA Winder	- CP for U1 650/50 is on the air.
1310 KTCK	TX Dallas	- CP for U4 9000/5000 is on the air.
1450 KWHW	OK Altus	- Coordinate adjustment to N34-37-35 W99-20-09.
1490 KCFC	CO Boulder	- CP to increase power to U1 1000/1000 is on.

GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES

560 WNSR	TN Brentwood	- CP granted to increase day power level to become U5 4500/63.
630 WAVU	AL Albertville	- Coordinate adjustment to N34-14-19 W86-09-59.
800 WDSC	SC Dillon	- Coordinate adjustment to N34-22-08 W79-24-17.
910 WABI	ME Bangor	- Coordinate adjustment to N44-46-51 W68-44-52.
980 KSVC	UT Richfield	- CP granted to increase daytime power from a new 399' tower at a second location (N38-47-25 W112-00-42) and retain nighttime service at the present facility. When built, station will be U2 11000/1000.
1010 WIOJ	FL Jacksonville Beach	- Coordinate adjustment to N30-17-21 W81-33-01.
1070 KILR	IA Estherville	- CP granted to add night service as U4 250/48.
1080 KNDK	ND Langdon	- CP granted to add nighttime service as U1 1000/45 from an adjusted coordinate location of N48-47-09 W98-51-28.
1090 WBZB	NC Selma	- CP granted to raise daytime power and add Critical Hours operation to become D1 9000/0 CH 1700.
1200 WKOX	MA Framingham	- CP granted for a city-of-license change to Newton, build three new towers at N42-17-20 W71-11-21, and increase day and night power levels to become U4 50000/50000. The new transmitter site appears to be about 13 miles due east from the current site.
1220 WJUN	PA Mexico	- CP granted to raise nighttime power to become U1 1000/46.
1230 WWGA	GA Waycross	- CP granted to relocate to a new 147' tower at N31-13-45 W82-22-20.
1450 KDMN	CO Buena Vista	- Coordinate adjustment to N38-49-07 W106-09-34.
1490 WWPR	FL Bradenton	- CP granted to reduce day and night power levels from a new transmitter site. When built, will be U1 500/500 at N27-28-36 W82-32-09.
1510 KCUV	CO Littleton	- Granted augmentation changes to their current nighttime setup (U4 10000/1300) allowing a minor amount of signal to go to the east-north-east and west-southwest. They still have a number of applications up for consideration.
1520 WDMN	OH Toledo	- Granted CP to consolidate their day and night tower arrangements (they have been two sites) at a new 5-tower site at N41-30-32 W83-33-07 with U4 500/400 and change the city-of-license to Rossford, Ohio.
1530 WVFC	PA McConnellsburg	- CP granted to move to 1180 kHz with D1 510/0 with a city-of-license change to King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. This amendment to their CP was granted almost immediately after it was submitted.
1570 KBJT	AR Fordyce	- CP granted to move to 1590 kHz with U1 4700/35. Station also has a later application pending asking to move to 1010 kHz. We'll see.
1580 WKUN	GA Monroe	- CP granted to move to 1490 kHz with U1 1000/1000.
1600 KUBA	CA Yuba City	- Coordinate adjustment to N39-06-22 W121-39-18.

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

1060 NEW	NV Sparks	- Application is for U2 24000/750 CH 24000.
----------	-----------	---

APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES

710 WNTM	AL Mobile	- Application covers building four new towers and to raise day and night power levels, which was initially dismissed by the FCC. The station petitioned for reconsideration and the application was reinstated. If granted will become U2 6000/2100 at N30-47-23 W88-04-05.
960 WEAV	NY Plattsburgh	- Application is to add two augmentations to their night pattern allowing a small lobe to throw about 1000 Watts ERP toward 241 degrees.
980 KICA	NM Clovis	- Station recently changed facilities to U1 1400/712 from a new transmitter location. But if you'll remember, they had previously asked for U5 50000/188 from that new site before settling on the reduced numbers. Now they've re-submitted for U5 50000/172 with slightly different parameters for the daytime 50 kW. Incidentally, the proposed day pattern shoots north-east toward the Oklahoma Panhandle and into Southwest Kansas.
1220 WOTS	FL Kissimmee	- Application is to build two towers at a new site in order to

- increase both day and night power levels and become U4 2500/195. [But John Bowker needn't worry as both patterns are directed away from him, hi]
- 1230 **WWGA GA** **Waycross** - Applies to move to a new 150' tower. Facilities remain U1 1000/1000.
- 1280 **KDOX NV** **Henderson** - Application is to di-plex KDOX to the site of KSHP-1400 at N3-12-39 W115-09-47.
- 1290 **KALM MO** **Thayer** - Coordinate adjustment to N36-33-23 W91-33-06.
- 1300 **WKCY VA** **Harrisonburg** - Application covers an increase in daytime power and a reduction in nighttime power. If granted, station would become U1 5700/22.
- 1310 **WDKD SC** **Kingstree** - Coordinate adjustment to N33-42-12 W79-48-58.
- 1410 **WRMN IL** **Elgin** - This one has turned up some interesting information. Licensed for U2 1000/500, station applies to raise nighttime power to become U2 1000/1500. But what's strange about this listing on the FCC's web site, is that the day facility is licensed to Elgin, but the location of the nighttime facility is listed as "Kane". Kane is Elgin's county. Hmmmmm.
- 1420 **KPOC AR** **Pocahontas** - Applies to add night service as U1 1000/150 along with a coordinate adjustment to N36-16-38 W90-57-16.
- 1450 **KWHW OK** **Altus** - Coordinate adjustment to N34-37-35 W99-20-09.
- 1530 **WENG FL** **Englewood** - Coordinate adjustment to N26-58-15 W82-19-24.
- 1570 **WLBQ KY** **Morgantown** - Licensed for U1 1000/150, station asks to move to a new 157' tower at N87-13-09 W86-41-21.

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTRUCTION PERMITS SUBMITTED

- 540 **WDAK GA** **Columbus** - Licensed for U2 5000/500, station has a CP to reduce night power to become U2 5000/410. This amendment asks to reduce day and night power to become U1 4000/38 from a new, single tower site.
- 900 **WLSI KY** **Pikeville** - Licensed for U1 5000/159, station has a CP to decrease both day and night power levels to become U1 3000/125 from a new 146' tower at N37-27-57 W82-33-04. This amendment seeks to increase the daytime power to 3500 Watts at that new location.
- 930 **WHLM PA** **Bloomsburg** - Licensed for U1 1000/23, station has a CP to reduce the nighttime power to become U1 1000/18 from a new tower site at N41-01-00 W76-27-43. This amendment asks to build a second tower at that new site and increase night power to become U2 1000/125.
- 990 **WLEE VA** **Richmond** - Licensed for U1 1000/13, station has had a CP for U4 3600/1350 along with a city-of-license change to Short Pump on the books for about a year. Now they've asked to delete that CP in favor of a new application for U4 4000/2000 from a new transmitter site and a change of city-of-license to East Highland Park.
- 1150 **WHBY WI** **Kimberly** - Licensed for U4 5000/5000, station has a CP to raise both day and night power levels to become U4 20000/25000 from a new 6-tower site. This amendment corrects the coordinates to N44-08-20 W88-32-46.
- 1220 **WJUN PA** **Mexico** - Station is licensed for U1 1000/39 and has a CP to increase the nighttime power by one Watt. This amendment now asks to raise that nighttime power to 46 Watts. They must have purchased a second hamster.
- 1240 **KRDM OR** **Redmond** - New station, not yet on the air, has a CP for U1 750/750. This amendment asks to raise the power level from a different site.
- 1400 **KIGO ID** **St. Anthony** - Station has a CP to move to 1420 kHz with U1 50000/16 from their 186' tower. This amendment asks for U1 50000/12 from a new 325' tower at a new site.
- 1440 **KTNO TX** **Denton** - Licensed for U2 5000/500, station has a CP to change the city-of-license to **University Park** (a Dallas suburb) with U4 9000/350 from a new 5-tower array at N32-45-02 W96-43-22, a move of about 35 miles. This amendment asks to increase the daytime power, which would make them U4 15000/350.
- 1530 **WVFC PA** **McConnellsburg** - Station has a CP to move to 1180 kHz with D3 2300/0 from a new 3-tower site, along with a city-of-license change to **King of Prussia, Pennsylvania**. This amendment seeks to change the specs to D1 510/0 at King of Prussia from that new site.
- 1560 **KILE TX** **Bellaire** - Licensed for D1 800/0, station has a CP to raise their power to become D3 50000/0 from a new 6-tower site. This amendment asks to add

nighttime service from another site, this one with 9 towers. If granted, they would become U4 50000/25000 from two sites.

AMENDMENTS TO APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED

- 920 **WMOK IL** **Metropolis** - Licensed for U1 1000/73, station has a pending application to build 4 new towers at a second site and increase night power to become U2 1000/750. This amendment asks for the same parameters, but another site is proposed for the nighttime array. Incidentally, the proposed night pattern is directed at 183 degrees.
- 990 **KATD CA** **Pittsburg** - Licensed for U4 5000/5000, station has an application to increase day power to become U4 10000/5000 and move to a new 3-tower site at N38-30-17 W121-10-48. The FCC later responded to the request, but after the station was sold. The current owners never received the FCC message. One of the issues was the proposed new nighttime parameters would increase the 50% RSS of co-channel Mexican station XECL, in violation of the US/Mexican agreement. On May 6, 2004, the new owner's engineer's addressed the FCC inquiry and antenna values in the request were changed. Also addressed were the submission of tower registration numbers. These actions are the basis for this amendment.
- 1030 **NEW CA** **Elk Grove** - Station had applied for U4 50000/50000. This amendment lowers the nighttime power. If granted, station would be U4 50000/10000.
- 1050 **KCAA CA** **Loma Linda** - Licensed for D3 1400/0, station has an application to add night service from a second two-tower site to become U4 1400/1000. This amendment is for a power increase for that nighttime application and to add two additional towers to the second site. If granted, station would be U4 1400/1800 from two sites.
- 1070 **WNCT NC** **Greenville** - Licensed for U4 10000/10000, station has a pending application for U7 50000/8500 CH 50000. This amendment drops the CH designation and raises the night power to the original 10 kW. If granted, they will be U4 50000/10000.
- 1250 **WKNX MI** **Bay City** - Licensed for U2 1000/129, station has an application to add one tower to their current three in order to raise daytime power to become U4 5000/129 in addition to changing the city-of-license to Bridgeport. This amendment seeks to retain city-of-license at Bay City with the new facilities.
- 1470 **WQXL SC** **Columbia** - Licensed for U1 5000/138, station has an application to increase day and reduce night power levels to become U1 11000/120. This amendment seeks U1 11000/100, and request to relocate to the 324' tower of WGCY-620.

APPLICATIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION

- 930 **KIUP CO** **Durango** - Station is licensed for U1 5000/100. They applied for to increase nighttime power to become U1 5000/5000, which was dismissed by the FCC. This amendment lowers the requested nighttime power. The application states that multiple tests were conducted to confirm that the high mountains surrounding the transmitter site attenuate and prevent radiation of any significant signal at skywave angles which would cause interference to co-channel stations which participated in the tests (KSDN, KOGA, WTAD, WKY, KHJ, KSEI, and KLCY). If granted, station would be U1 5000/3400.
- 1210 **KPRZ CA** **San Marcos** - Licensed for U4 20000/10000, station applied to raise nighttime power to become U4 20000/22000, but was turned down by the FCC. They are asking for reconsideration, having changed the specifications for the nighttime service from three towers and 22000 Watts to four towers and 30000 Watts.
- 1540 **WADK RI** **Newport** - Licensed for D1 1000/0, station wanted to add night service by adding two towers to their single stick to become U2 1000/20000 which was initially dismissed by the FCC. Now they have scaled back the power level and are asking for U4 1000/5000. [This corrects incorrect information about this action from last issue - Ed.]

APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES DISMISSED

- 940 **KHCM HI** **Waipahu** - Station applied to move to 960 kHz with U1 10000/10000, plus

move to the tower already used by KHNR-650, and proposed to be shared with KAIM (now on 870 but has applied to move to 880 kHz) and a new station on 1600 kHz.

1590 WATX TN **Algood** - Licensed for U1 1000/37, station wanted to move to 1600 kHz with U1 2400/34 from a new transmitter site.

OTHER ACTIONS

1190 WBIS MD **Annapolis** - WBIS, licensed for D3 10000/0, has had a 'slew' of applications and CPs on the books since 1995. On June 1st, they asked to have two of the applications removed from their file. So, they are left with the following, in chronological order: an application to change city-of-license to Highland Beach, Maryland and add nighttime service becoming U4 10000/1000; an application to change city-of-license to Garrison, Maryland, raise daytime power and add nighttime service to become U4 50000/330; and finally a CP to raise the daytime power to be D3 50000/0 at Annapolis. As they say on the late news . . . 'more as it happens'.

1420 WDJA FL **Delray Beach** - Station, licensed for U4 5000/500, had a CP to lower the nighttime power to 460 Watts, but asked that it be rescinded.

PETITIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION FOR DISMISSED AUCTION 84 APPLICATIONS

1150 NEW CA **Fresno** - Requested U1 250/250.
 1250 NEW NV **Mesquite** - Requested U2 2500/750.
 1340 NEW NH **Kearsarge** - Requested U1 1000/1000.
 1450 NEW UT **Green River** - Requested U1 900/900.



LICENSE CANCELLATIONS/CALL LETTERS DELETED

1150 KLRG AR N. Little Rock 1230 KEEE TX Nacogdoches 1360 WCHQ PR Camuy

LICENSE RENEWALS GRANTED

550 WSAU WI Wausau	1090 KAAY AR Little Rock	1370 WLTC NC Gastonia
640 KTIB LA Thibodaux	1100 WMYQ MS Newton	1390 WXTX SC Charleston
660 WDLT AL Fairhope	1190 WIXE NC Monroe	1400 WYKC MS Grenada
700 WGZS AL Dothan	1230 KLIC LA Monroe	1400 KRVS AZ Springerville
750 WSB GA Atlanta	1240 WBHB GA Fitzgerald	1400 WKXI MS Jackson
760 KMTL AR Sherwood	1240 KASO LA Minden	1450 WVLD GA Valdosta
860 KOSE AR Wilson	1250 KLIH AR Little Rock	1490 WYYZ GA Jasper
870 KFJZ TX Fort Worth	1270 WMLC MS Monticello	1490 WDUR NC Durham
900 WGOK AL Mobile	1290 KUOA AR Siloam Springs	1560 WRSJ PR Bayamon
940 WCPC MS Houston	1300 WIMO GA Winder	1570 WVOJ FL Fernandina Beach
950 KJR WA Seattle	1300 WOAD MS Jackson	1570 WONA MS Winona
960 WZRH NC Dallas	1310 WDKD SC Kingstree	1580 WORW MS Hattiesburg
990 WGSO LA New Orleans	1340 KRMD LA Shreveport	1590 WBHN NC Bryson City
990 WABO MS Waynesboro	1360 WFFF MS Columbia	1640 KFNY OK Enid
1050 WACR MS Columbus		

CANADIAN NEWS

□ Fredericton, New Brunswick's second-to-last AM signal, CBZ-970, has left the air, with their programming taking up residence at 99.5 MHz on the FM band on June 22. **Brent Taylor, Doaktown/Fredericton, New Brunswick** on the NRCDXAS AM List provided this news. Columbia Kootenay Broadcasting Company Ltd. has petitioned to add an AM transmitter on 1200 kHz at Canal Flats, British Columbia with 50 Watts to relay their CHDR-FM Cranbrook, BC. I can find no CHDR-FM in any on-line references, but there is a CBBR-FM on 101.3 and a NEW station on 104.7 in Cranbrook. Maybe it's one of those?

MEXICAN MANEUVERS

□ The **CGC Communicator** reports that those three Mexican AM stations which have been causing so much concern in the Southern California/Arizona regions are changing frequencies. It seems the FCC and the SCT (Mexico's FCC) have reached an agreement on how interference from the stations is to be resolved. The moves involve XEKTT-560 to 1700 with 10 kW fulltime, XESS-780 to 620 with 5 kw fulltime, and XESDD-920 to 1030 with 5 kW fulltime. No word about any directional patterns, so it seems they *still* will be interfering with other stations. Word is that XEKTT has already moved to 1700 kHz but is reportedly having trouble loading such a short wavelength into their very tall tower. XESS' operation on 620 kHz has been intermittent, and finally, XESDD has reportedly not been on the air on 920 kHz due to a frequency conflict within Mexico, and so far the station has not lit up on 1030. Enquiring minds are asking why Mr. Bonilla would switch one of his

Mexican stations to 1030 kHz when he already operates a 1040 kHz station (KURS) in San Diego. The mutual sideband interference should be interesting.

HEAR AND THAR

□ FCC, Part 1: The FCC has fined **WCFI-1290 Ocala, Florida** the sum of \$10,000 "... for willful and repeated violation of Section 17.51(a) of the Commission's Rules" ... regarding failure "... to exhibit red obstruction lighting on structure 1217391 [one of their towers] from sunset to sunrise." The owners of **KASO-1240 Minden, Louisiana** have been fined \$13,000 for having an unsecured fence at the antenna site plus their public files were cited as being not up-to-date and/or not available. What!?! No EAS violations?? Oh, here's one: **WBLB-1340 Pulaski, Virginia** has been fined \$8000 for what they term "... repeated failures to have its Emergency Alert System transmitting available during times station is in operation". They go on to say that WBLB has not responded to numerous attempts to contact them. Hmmmm. Something is amiss here, as the FCC lists WBLB as 'cancelled/call sign deleted'. No wonder they didn't respond. **KLYR-1360 Clarksville, Arkansas** has been fined \$4,400 by the FCC "... for willful violation of Section 73.49 of the Commission's Rules ..." which involve failure to maintain an effective locked fence around the base of the antenna tower. The original amount was \$7,000, but station officials pleaded their case and the fine was reduced. A fine of \$7,000 has been levied against **WMGC-810 Murfreesboro, Tennessee** for what the FCC describes as "... failure to maintain properly calibrated indicating instruments, failure to terminate broadcast operation as required when (the station) operated in non-compliance with the technical rules, and exceeding the authorized transmitter power ... by failing to reduce power at sunset." **WJLL-1440 Niagara Falls, New York** has been fined \$10,000 "... for its willful and repeated violations of the power restriction, Emergency Alert System (EAS) and antenna structure requirements ... of the Commission's Rules." "The Commission's Buffalo, New York Office conducted on-site inspections of Station WJLL. The inspections revealed that station had been exceeding its authorized power by than 105 percent, that its EAS equipment had not been fully operational, and had not been monitored, tested and logged on a regular basis, and that its antenna structure had not been registered." **KDMN-1450 Buena Vista, Colorado** has been fined \$7,000 for what the FCC says: "... for willful and repeated violation of Section 73.49 of the Commission's Rules. The noted violation involves Pilgrim's failure to keep KDMN's antenna structure enclosed within an effective locked fence or other enclosure. On late with day power, but legally, was **WTTN-1580 Watertown, Wisconsin** with live, emergency programming as tornadoes swept through southern Wisconsin on June 23. The programming was also on **WBEV-1430 and WXRO-FM 95.3 Beaver Dam**. A couple of local stations serving their communities well! Thanks to **Bill Dvorak** for posting this.

□ FCC, Part Deux: The FCC has come to an understanding with Mr. Levi Willis, who must surrender four of his licenses due to non-payment of FCC fines in the area of \$85,000. Those stations are: **WCry-1460 Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina**, **WSVE-1280 Jacksonville, Florida**, **KLRG-1150 North Little Rock, Arkansas**, and **KVLA-1400 Vidalia, Louisiana**. Not only had FCC inspections revealed numerous, ongoing violations of the Commission's technical, safety and other rules, but also Mr. Willis had failed repeatedly to respond to official notices of violation or other correspondence from the FCC. Delays in responding were being blamed on Mr. Willis' health problems, which is disputed by the FCC. Pending license renewals for **WWCA-1270 Gary, Indiana** and **WJNS-FM-92.1 Yazoo City, Mississippi** will only be made with the understanding that they be sold immediately, or risk losing those licenses along with six others. The money gained from the WWCA and WJNS-FM sales will go to pay the fines that Mr. Willis owes the FCC as well as back taxes and federal judgments against him, as well as to resolve technical and regulatory compliance problems at Willis' other stations.

□ **Jerry Starr** writes: "Sunday [6/6/2004] I had an opportunity to talk with the new operator of WGRP-940 Greenville, PA. It turns out that he obtained the license but not the property so the two-tower transmitter/studio site, while still standing, is still dormant. Since it returned to the air, WGRP has been running about 80 watts into a skirt on a cell tower across the street from the former site. They have an STA for 100 watts but he said 'about 80 is all we can get out of it'. This would account for the weaker than expected signal from this station compared to their former kilowatt." And **Jerry** also contributes the following two items: **WCST-1010 Berkeley Springs, West Virginia** (the town known as Bath many years ago) has been silent since February 2004 but they expect to return when the FCC grants their application for U1 267/17. They plan to feed a 175-foot, 6-wire skirt on the 285 foot WDNC-FM tower. This will include a smaller de-tuning skirt above the active skirt to decouple the rest of the tower from the AM system; **WKQW-1120 Oil City, Pennsylvania** built their new FM tower right next to the existing 165-foot top-loaded AM tower. In order to keep the FM tower from distorting the AM non-directional pattern, the FM tower was base insulated, has

insulators in the guy wires and has a full ground radial system under it bonded to the AM ground system, all this in order to de-tune the FM tower to make it RF transparent at 1120. Then one day 'the light bulb came on'. Since it's already base-insulated, the FM feedline is already iso-coupled, and it already has its own ground system, why not just feed the 305 foot, more efficient, tower for 1120? The smaller tower will be kept for standby purposes. That application will be tendered soon.

□ Returning to the air since we last met: **WCKL-560 Catskill, New York**; **WCKO-1110 Norfolk, Virginia**; **WSEL-1440 Pontotoc, Mississippi** with black gospel. Also back on is **WQBQ-1410 Leesburg, Florida**, as **Art Burke** of Leesville reports: "They are back on the air once again. Fortunately, they do not appear to be using the same transmitting facilities, or at least not at the same power level. They are advertising as Travel Information Radio, WTIR 1300 and WQBQ 1410. The WTIR on 1300 is in Melbourne (about 75 miles or so as the crow flies - and radio signals run!). If they are actually using the facilities south of Leesburg for the 1410 frequency, it is certainly at a reduced power. Judging by the signal strength, it sounds like they're running 1000 watts from somewhere in the Melbourne area." WQBQ has a pending CP to raise the day power from 5000 to 10000 Watts from a new, two-tower site using a directional pattern oriented toward the northwest. This *may* be the reason for a reduced signal level at Art's location. The list of silent stations now includes **KCHI-1010 Chillicothe, Missouri** due to lightning strike, **WKCE-1120 Maryville, Tennessee**, **WCTM-1130 Eaton, Ohio**, **WEWC-1160 Callahan, Florida**, **WCRY-1460 Fuquay-Farina, North Carolina**, **WYMM-1530 Jacksonville, Florida**, **WATJ-1560 Chardon, Ohio**, and **KAMI-1580 Cozad, Nebraska**. Also, **WFRO-900 Fremont, Ohio** has also gone silent, as its license was surrendered to the FCC to allow **WFDF-910 Flint, Michigan** to move its transmitter site into the Detroit area. This is not an unprecedented move, as over the past 20 years several stations have gone off in favor of others expanding their coverage areas.

□ From the *Grand Island Independent* comes word that "News talk radio station KMMJ AM 750 has been off the air since Sunday [June 6, 2004] due to vandalism. 'We suffered some vandalism at our transmitter site in Merrick County,' said Jay Vavricek, president of G.I. Family Radio, the owner of KMMJ. Damage estimates were not yet available as parts and replacement pieces were still being assessed. Engineers were being flown in from out of state to assess the damages and make repairs, Vavricek said. The engineers were expected to arrive today [June 9] with the hope of getting the station back on the air Friday. KMMJ features Rush Limbaugh, Dr. Laura, the Voice of NASCAR and classic country music."

□ Other than mentioned previously, our thanks go to **Shawn Axelrod, Perry Crabill, Wayne Heinen, and Upper Midwest Broadcasting.**

GRAVEYARD DX UPDATE

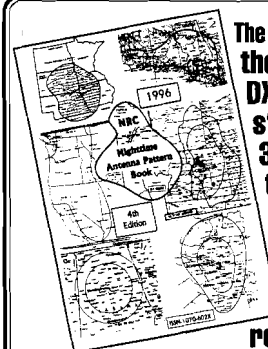
Remember, all the GYDX records are online at www.angelfire.com/phantom2/index.html

1450 kHz:				Miles	
KCYL	TX	Lampasas	Bruce Winkelman	Tulsa, OK	358
KMHT	TX	Marshall	Bruce Winkelman	Tulsa, OK	260

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. Thanks!



The *NRC Nighttime Antenna Pattern Book, 5th Edition* is the perfect mate to the *NRC AM Log*, as the NPB provides DX'ers with up-to-date maps of all (except Class IV) stations with nighttime operations. Convenient to use: 3-hole punched for standard binders. Still only \$16.95 to U. S. and Canadian members; \$22.95 to U. S. and Canadian non-NRC members. Airmail to members in Europe (except Italy): \$29.00. All others, please contact us for exact pricing. Order from: NRC Publications - Box 164 - Mannsville, NY 13661 (NY residents, please add sales tax)

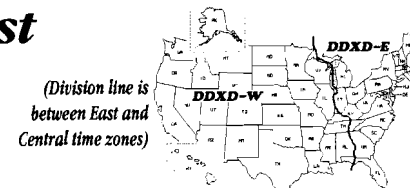
Domestic DX Digest

West: Harry Helms w7hlh1@cox.net

8725 Raindrop Canyon Ave. - Las Vegas, NV 89129-7667

East: Ginnie Lupi ginnie@nrcdxas.org

PO Box 3028 - Saratoga Springs, NY 12866



(Division line is between East and Central time zones)

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

DDXD-West

RANDOM STUFF

- The summer DX doldrums hit with full force this issue! But summer is a good time for erecting new antennas, getting that ground system in shape, getting to know your dial—that is, learning which stations are normally heard at your location and which aren't—and otherwise "doing the homework" that will pay off in new DX catches this autumn.
- Speaking of homework, I'm going to be moving again in August, and this time quite a way from Las Vegas. Desert living doesn't agree with me or my new wife, so we're going to be relocating to a place where we've both lived in the past. My new mailing address will be available for next issue, but in the meantime, here's a hint: EL09.
- The next deadline for the next DDXD-W will be July 23 for both e-mail and snail mail contributions.
- And be sure to share your loggings with your fellow NRCers! Please submit your loggings in the format you see below, including enough details to help your fellow NRCers log the station. **Please use Eastern local time (ELT) for all times, regardless of your local time zone.** ELT is now Eastern daylight time, so you need to add the appropriate number of hours to your local time (one for Central daylight, two for Mountain daylight, and three for Pacific daylight) for all loggings submitted to this column.

REPORTERS.

- BK-CA** Bob Karchevski, Sunnyvale. DX-398, no external antenna.
- DBJ-TN** David B. Jones, Springfield. Drake R8A, Quantum QX Pro loop.
- DP-HI** Dale Park, Honolulu. Receiver, antenna.
- JJR-WI** John J. Rieger, South Milwaukee. Drake R8, 100-foot longwire, Terk loop, GE Superadio III.
- SA-MB** Shawn Axelrod, Winnipeg. Icom R70, Drake R8, 4-foot box loop, Quantum loop, 155 and 100 foot wires, MFJ1026 phasing unit.
- SP-WI** Sheryl Paszkiewicz, Manitowoc. Grundig Satellite 800, AOR LA-350 loop.
- Ed.-NV** Your Editor, Las Vegas. Drake R8B, Sony ICF2010, Quantum loop and phaser.

STATION NEWS, LOG UPDATES, ETC.

- 1500 **KUMU HI Honolulu.** 6/11. Noted first on 6/04 simulcasting KUMU-FM 94.7 day and night, instead of just AM drive, dropping the AC oldies/standards format. Used slogan "Lite 94-7." Later found out from the Honolulu Star-Bulletin 6/11 this was temporary while the station was being rewired to receive satellite radio, as KUMU was relaunched 6/10 as "The New Talk of Honolulu," featuring talk programming from Westwood One, WOR and Air America plus news from CNN Radio. KUMU will still air some holdover brokered programs as well as some play-by-play. Station was recently bought by the owner of talk stations KAOI-1110 and KQNG-570 and has been noted relaying KAOI. (DP-HI)

TIS, HAR, ETC.

- 530 **WNET422 CA Los Altos.** 6/16 1220-1230. When I read Dale Park's report in the last issue of DX News, I immediately tuned the DX-398 (barefoot) to 530 at 9:20am local time. The last time I logged this one (in 1995) I heard WNVF-422. Today, they were loud but not clear. Sounded like the announcer was muffled. A 90 degree rotation brought in "W.N.T.Z. dash 94.7" from the San Jose airport (SJO). No third TIS detected here. (BK-CA)

		REGULAR DX LOGGINGS (times in ELT)	
570	WKYX KY	Paducah. 6/19 2325. Talk, program promo, "Talk Radio AM 570 WKYX," spots, more mentions of Paducah. New. (SP-WI)	
610	WPLO GA	Grayson. 6/23 0200. Spanish music, English ID "610 AM, WPLO" into Spanish music and ads. (DBJ-TN)	
680	WRRD KY	Newburgh. 7/3 0538. Poor but alone with Radio Disney until fade-down. (JJR-WI)	
730	CKDM MB	Dauphin. 7/3 0532. Poor with female announcer, calls, into taped weather forecast, ads. (JJR-WI)	
780	WPTN TN	Cookville. 6/23 1330. Rush Limbaugh show with local ads. (DBJ-TN)	
790	WXXA KY	Louisville. 7/3 0545. Poor, "Xtra Sports 790" into ads, FOX Sports. Rare! (JJR-WI)	
970	WDAY ND	Fargo. 6/22 2327. Sports, spots, WDAY AM, "here on WDAY," first station logged on 970 due to local on 980. New. (SP-WI)	
970	WGTK KY	Louisville. 7/3 0505. Poor with calls, into AP News format, national weather. Alone. (JJR-WI)	
1030	WEBS GA	Calhoun. 5/12 0330. Oldies music, CNN news, local florist ad. (DBJ-TN)	
1220	WCPH TN	Etawah. 6/23 0100. Oldies music, AP News, community calendar promo, ID "music of your life, AM 1220." (DBJ-TN)	
1230	KFJB IA	Marshalltown. 7/3 0500. Poor with legal ID into news. Alone. (JJR-WI)	
1360	WLBK IL	DeKalb. 6/22 2225. "WLBK 1360 AM," s/off routine. New. (SP-WI)	
1360	WVRQ WI	Viroqua. 6/22 2215. Eock & roll oldies, "Vintage VRQ, WVRQ" jingle. New. (SP-WI)	
1390	WGRB IL	Chicago. 5/5 0202. Poor signals in noise with "Gospel Radio 13-90 WGRB" ID, into Gospel music. New call sign. New. (SA-MB)	
1450	CHUC ON	Port Hope. 7/3 0452. Fair on peaks with calls and AC/OLD stuff. (JJR-WI)	
1450	KYLS MO	Fredericktown. 5/4 0045. Oldies, ID as "Classic 1450, KYLS." (DBJ-TN)	
1460	WXOK LA	Baton Rouge. 5/3 0300. Gospel music and mention of church events in the area. (DBJ-TN)	
1470	WRGA GA	Rome. 5/1 2000. "You are listening to Braves baseball on 1470, WRGA." (DBJ-TN)	

DDXD-East

KGIL 1260 AM

REPORTERS

JF-ON	Jeff Falconer, Clinton - AOR AR7030+, 130' east EWE / 130' west EWE or Drake R8B with 45' GAP vertical, MFJ-1026 phaser, etc.
JH-GA	John Hunter, Rossville - Stock R-75, Long wires, RS-TRE, ATS 909.
IEN-GA	Ira Elbert New, III, Watkinsville - AIWA CSD-FD89 and Select-A-Tenna.
AO-FL	Al Ogrizovich, Jacksonville - Crane Radio Plus.

UNID/PRESUMED

710	UNID	_____ - 6/26 0030 - Country music. Good signal, but deep fades. Simulcast of FM 97.?. WOR in NY underneath and Hispanic talk from somewhere. (IEN-GA)
720	KSAHp TX	Universal City - 6/8 0615 - Very strong SS station presumed to be KSAH due to frequent mentions of San Antonio and "Hey San Antonio", "La Unica" into song possibly about getting caught by border patrol. Man said "La émigré" and then police sirens heard (just guessing on spelling). Woman gave some sort of ID as "por favor Time Warner Cable San Antonio e... - Express." No trace of WGN. (JH-GA)
920	UNID	_____ - 6/27 0112 - Country music simulcast. "103.9, WXXK, The Bulldog!" (IEN-GA)
1610	UNID	_____ - 6/10 0402 - Possible pirate? Very weak distorted Top 40 music heard and male and female DJs but way too weak to hear much. (JH-GA)

STATION LOGGINGS

600	WREC TN	Memphis - 6/26 0530 - Paul Harvey promo. Weak, but steady. "...Paul Harvey on Newstalk 600, WREC." (IEN-GA)
620	CKRM SK	Regina - 6/26 0000 - good over WTMJ at times with C&W music, call ID at top of hour, into news with an item about the Canadian election. (JF-ON)

630	WNEG GA	Toccoa - 6/26 0020 - Gospel music. Very weak in the slop. "AM 630, WBMQ, your gospel music station." (IEN-GA)
690	WJOX AL	Birmingham - 6/3 2045 - Atlanta Braves vs. Philadelphia Phillies. Weak signal buried in the bleed from 680 The Fan. "You're listening to Atlanta Braves Baseball on 690 AM, WJOX." (IEN-GA)
720	WGCR NC	Pisgah Forest - 6/8 0619 - Noted at 0619 sign-on under very strong SS station (presumed KSAH, University City TX). Weather mentioning highs of around 80 today and heaven rain in some areas then went on to give weather for rest of North and South Carolina by woman. (JH-GA)
770	WKFB PA	Jeannette - 6/26 0624 - good over WABC with non-stop polka music // WKHB-620, no announcements until garbled ID at 0653 mentioning Pittsburgh. Last heard when it was WBCW on 1530. WTOR not on yet, must cause havoc with each other. (JF-ON)
810	WNSI AL	Jacksonville - 6/3 2050 - Old Shep by Red Foley. Decent signal with long, deep fades. "Playing real American country, Alabama 810." (IEN-GA)
840	WCEO SC	Columbia - 5/12 2013 - Very quick WCEO sign off announcement. (AO-FL)
860	WDMG GA	Douglas - 6/3 2105 - Atlanta Braves vs. Philadelphia Phillies. Good signal with bleed from WWL on 870. "WDMG, AM 860, The Game." (IEN-GA)
940	WCPC MS	Houston - 6/3 2110 - Local weather from a live on-air personality, then into Johnny Cash song. Decent signal on top of Braves Baseball from WMAC Macon, GA. "WCPC, Houston." (IEN-GA)
950	WGOV GA	Valdosta - 6/3 2115 - Urban/Hip-Hop fare. Strong, clean signal with long, deep fades. "WGOV, Magic 950 AM." (IEN-GA)
1030	WEBS GA	Calhoun - 5/11 0644 - oldies and liners for Oldies 1030 and plenty of mentions of Calhoun. (AO-FL)
1070	WIBC IN	Indianapolis - 6/5 2300 - Financial program into news of the death of Ronald Reagan. Decent signal mixed with WFLI in TN. "Radio Indiana, WIBC, Indianapolis." (IEN-GA)
	WFLI TN	Lookout Mountain - 6/5 2300 - Gospel music into news of the death of Ronald Reagan. Decent signal mixed with WIBC-IN. "WFLI, Lookout Mountain, Tennessee." (IEN-GA)
1090	WTNK TN	Hartsville - 6/27 0048 - Stock car racing from Riverview Speedway. 16-year-old Brenda Turner won and this was her third Super Stock Feature victory of the season! Good signal, with slight fading. "The heart of Tennessee, AM 1090, WTNK, Hartsville" (IEN-GA)
1320	WZZK AL	Birmingham - 6/7 0610 - "The Legend of Country Music and ONLY the Legends of Country music WZZK AM Birmingham's Country Legend 1320". Fair signal. (JH-GA)
	WJGR FL	Jacksonville - 6/8 0100 - ABC Newscast with Ronald Reagan funeral plans and news about the G8 Summit in Georgia. Strong signal at times in a mix of others. "WJGR 1320, Jacksonville, The Patriot." (IEN-GA)
1350	WGAD AL	Gadsden - 6/25 0025 - Atlanta Braves Baseball Promo with the voice of Pete Van Wiren. Weak, but legible in the slop. "Catch Braves Baseball on AM 1350, WGAD." (IEN-GA)
1370	WDEF TN	Chattanooga - 6/5 2359 - Sporting news of the day. Very weak signal. "Chattanooga's ESPN Radio, 1370, WDEF, Chattanooga." (IEN-GA)
1460	WXOK LA	Baton Rouge - 6/8 0500 - TOH ID "Heaven AM 1460 WXOK ... Baton Rouge's choice for the Gospel of Truth. A service of Citadel broadcasting." Under WZNZ ESPN station in Jacksonville. (JH-GA)
	WZNZ FL	Jacksonville - 6/8 0504 - ESPN sports. Cardinals beat the Cubs 4 to 3. Ad for Tempurpedic bed. "This is your Community Calendar from Jacksonville's only ESPN, 1460. Winn Dixie and the Jacksonville Jaguars are teaming up to celebrate June, National Dairy Month to provide an opportunity for 150 local children to attend Jaguar ... camp". Strong signal at times mixing with WXOK. (JH-GA)
1480	WYZE GA	Atlanta - 5/22 1945 - Urban gospel ID at :45. (AO-FL)
1520	KOMA OK	Oklahoma City - 6/3 2145 - Neal Boortz promo. Weak signal competing with WLAC 1510 and WSAI 1530. "Newstalk 1520, KOMA." (IEN-GA)
1650	KWHN AR	Fort Smith - 6/26 0000 - Sean Hannity promo and CBS News. Weak, but legible in the slop. "The one you depend on for Sean Hannity, Newstalk 1650, KWHN." (IEN-GA)

KRJO LA Monroe - 6/7 0142 - "Rejoice 1680, KRJO 1680" ID pretty weak then into urban gospel. (JH-GA)

TIS, HAR

1610 WPZX365 AL Leeds - 6/7 0710 - "Welcome to Leeds Alabama. This is WPZX365 ..." and then the modulation dropped to where I couldn't hear what was being said. Thanks to Bill Harms for the ID on this. (JH-GA)

WPQX600 GA Watkinville - 6/7 0716 - Oconee County GA with a website given as www.oconeecounty.com then the call letters and advice to carry an extra flashlight and portable radio tuned to this station along with mentions about special needs citizens. They give an address for the Emergency Management agency office located in the government annex building 1291 Greensboro highway Watkinville (GA). Surprisingly good for 10 watts at this distance. Thanks again to Bill Harms for help IDing this one too. (JH-GA)

UNID TIS — — - 6/9 0415 - Someone running WXX71's audio feed. Poor signal mixing with WPQX600 Watkinville GA. (JH-GA)

NRC 2004 Batavia

Labor Day weekend: Thursday September 2 - Sunday September 5

Plan for a fun-filled five-day weekend during the 2004 National Radio Club convention at the Days Inn in Batavia, New York. Rooms are \$72 per room per night, with a maximum of four people per room. Pets are permitted at the Days Inn. You can make your reservations by phone by calling the hotel DIRECTLY at 585-343-1440. Be sure they know you're with the NRC. The Days Inn is located adjacent to the exit ramp of exit 48 of the New York State Thruway (I-90), with lots and lots of free parking.

Events kick off on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 with several station tours in the Toronto suburbs, including CHWO 740. You'll want to bring both proof of identity (a government-issued photo ID, usually a driver's license or a state-issued non-driver ID card) and proof of citizenship (a Social Security card). A passport is ideal, but not required. If you'll be bringing a service dog, Canada requires proof of immunization in order for the dog to enter the country.

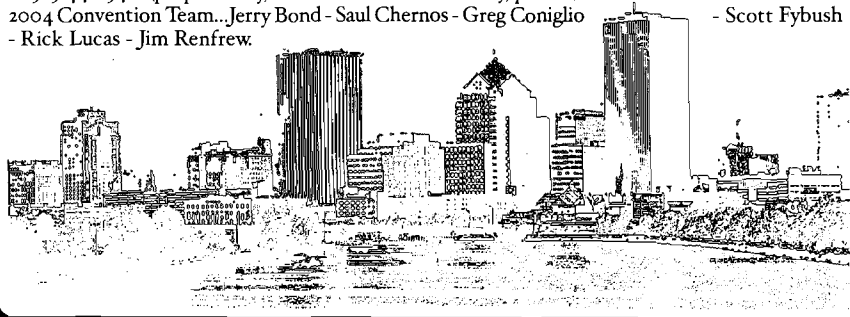
On FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, you can count on a local station tour in the morning - and then a trip to the city where so much early NRC history was made, to the Queen City of Buffalo precisely 40 years after the last NRC convention (1964). The events will include a trip to the nearby home of co-host Jim Renfrew (about a 10-minute drive from the Days Inn) for an Antenna/Tuner Shootout.

On SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, attendees will head east to Rochester for several station tours, followed by the return to Batavia for the banquet, the annual meeting, the auction and plenty of companionship and conviviality into the night.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, the day will start with the world-famous DX Quiz - followed a trip to Bloomfield, New York (about a 50 minute drive) to visit the Antique Wireless Association Museum.

Registration is \$40 for attendees and \$20 for accompanying spouses (you can send your check, made out to the National Radio Club to Jerry Bond - 143 Burwell Rd - Rochester, NY 14617-4834., or go to www.nrcdxas.org and use a credit card to pay via PayPal).

For more information, contact your convention co-host Scott Fybush at scott@fybush.com or 585-442-5411 (prepaid only, 11 AM-11 PM Eastern only, please.) - Your NRC-2004 Convention Team... Jerry Bond - Saul Chernos - Greg Coniglio - Rick Lucas - Jim Renfrew - Scott Fybush



International DX Digest

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

Foreign DX Catches. Times are UTC; for ELI, subtract 5 hrs.

A report in my local newspaper, *The Telegraph*, indicates that 1590 WSMN Nashua is being evicted from its West Hollis Street studio and transmitter site. At this time WSMN is still on the air while the eviction is under appeal in district court. WSMN has been operating under a lease agreement with Tiger business radio. A site plan has already been posted on the front lawn of the studio building for demolition and construction of a housing development. WSMN beams its signal east and is a favorite target of European DXers.

Transatlantic DX

- 153 ALGERIA *Chaîne 1*, Béchar JUN 24 0244 - Loud and clear. Two men talking in Arabic. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 621 CANARY ISLANDS RNE Santa Cruz JUN 20 0248 - Very good and easily separable from 620. Man in Spanish and several minutes later light piano music. I figure Canaries as mainland Spain stations were not coming through at the time and I had weak hits on some Canary frequencies. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 792 SPAIN SER Seville JUN 17 0124 - Parallel 1044 with teletalk; fair to good. [Connelly-MA]
- 855 SPAIN RNE R.1 synchros JUN 17 0123 - Spanish talk; mixed with unID second station. [Connelly-MA]
- 890.98 ALGERIA *Chaîne 1*, Algiers JUN 17 0120 - Arabic talk by man; excellent. [Connelly-MA]
- 981 ALGERIA RTVA *Chaîne 2*, Algiers JUN 16 2342 - Arabic vocal, flutes, violins; good with WCAP phased. [Connelly-MA]
- 999 SPAIN COPE Madrid JUN 17 0118 - Parallel 1296 with Spanish news and discussion; loud. [Connelly-MA]
- 1044 MOROCCO Sebaa-Aioun JUN 16 2350 - Arabic music; up to S9 on the 152m BOG about a half-hour before sunset. [Connelly-MA]
- 1044 SPAIN SER synchros MAY 6 0118 - Woman on phone and a woman in the studio laughing about something; excellent. [Connelly-MA]
- 1062 ITALY RAI R. *Uno* synchros JUN 17 0056 - Woman in Italian, then romantic vocal; good, my best-ever reception of this one. Power increase? [Connelly-MA]
- 1098 SPAIN RNE R.5 synchros JUN 17 0051 - Parallel 1107 with a segment of a '40s-era US vocal, then Spanish talk; to fair peak, over jumble. [Connelly-MA]
- 1107 SPAIN RNE R.5 synchros JUN 17 0049 - Parallel 1152 with Spanish discussion; fair. [Connelly-MA]
- 1116 SPAIN SER synchros JUN 17 0111 - Parallel 1044 with teletalk; huge. [Connelly-MA]
- 1152 SPAIN RNE R.5 synchros JUN 17 0049 - Discussion program parallel 1107; poor to fair. [Connelly-MA]
- 1170 UNITED ARAB EMIRATES R. *Farda* JUN 17 0105 - After WFPB went off, this was top dog on channel with high-energy Middle Eastern music with drums, guitars, and vocal. Atop HJNW and other Latin Americans; 1171 het notched and WWVA totally phase-nulled. [Connelly-MA]
- 1171 IRAN (per European reporters) JUN 17 0041 - Fat het against local-strength daytimer WFPB Orleans, MA. + JUN 17 0103 - Middle Eastern music with trance-like orchestration and a sad-sounding male vocal; to good peak, easily splittable from 1170 with the R8A in 2.3 kHz bandwidth position and tuned to the high side. [Connelly-MA]
- 1179 CANARY ISLANDS // SPAIN SER synchros JUN 17 0043 - Woman with SER newstalk, segment of dramatic music, then into a telephone interview; loud! [Connelly-MA]
- 1197 SPAIN *Euskadi Irratia*, Vitoria JUN 17 0042 - Spanish teletalk with man and woman; fair over possible Lesotho (bits of accented English) and some WKOX slop. [Connelly-MA]
- 1206 FRANCE Bordeaux JUN 17 0040 - Dance-rock with French vocal; to good peak. [Connelly-MA]
- 1215 SPAIN COPE synchros JUN 17 0038 - Parallel 1296 with Spanish teletalk; in mix with UK. [Connelly-MA]
- 1215 UNITED KINGDOM *Virgin R.* synchros JUN 17 0039 - Sheryl Crow or similar vocal, then presenter talked about a department store; evenly mixed with Spain. [Connelly-MA]

CENTRAL QUEENSLAND RADIO

927



THE MUSIC WITH THE POWER

- 14
1224 **SPAIN** COPE synchros JUN 17 0036 - Parallel 1296 with talk, then musical interlude; poor. [Connelly-MA]
- 1251 **LIBYA** *Libyan Jamahiriya*, Tripoli JUN 17 0035 - Two men in Arabic; poor to fair. [Connelly-MA]
- 1296 **SPAIN** COPE Valencia JUN 17 0033 - Man and woman in Spanish, COPE and a telephone number were mentioned; very strong, over two others (UK/Sudan?). [Connelly-MA]
- 1296 **SUDAN** SNBC Reba MAY 26 0153 - Morning prayers, solo Arabic tenor with reed instrument backing, fair steady signal, slightly off freq (1295.99) in the clear, heard no ID but believe it to be this as WRTH indicates 1500 kW but hours at 0300-0700? So time seems off. Only an RF carrier after 0200. [Stromsted-MA]
- 1413 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros JUN 17 0005 - Spanish news by woman; good. [Connelly-MA]
- 1422 **ALGERIA** Algiers JUN 17 0007 - Bassy Middle East music; over WBSM/CKDY/WASR-1420 splash. + JUN 17 0030 - Disco instrumental, then man in French; good. [Connelly-MA]
- 1431 **DJIBOUTI** *R.Sawa*, Arta JUN 16 0225-0235 - Mid-East type music with male vocal, female announcer in Arabic, then pop music western style in Arabic. Then a man in Arabic and *Sawa* mentioned. Faded at 0237. [Dangerfield-PA] JUN 17 0029 - Pop Arabic female vocal and strings; fair. [Connelly-MA]
- 1503 **SPAIN** RNE R.5 synchros JUN 17 0012 - Spanish newstalk; to fair peak. [Connelly-MA]
- 1584 **CEUTA** *RadiOlé* JUN 17 0019 - Fast salsa group vocal and brass, then a slow emotional ballad; good, over SER. [Connelly-MA]

Ben speaks: Not much here of late but every so often there's a good TA night when I get a couple dozen signals. LAs have been poor except for 1620 WDHP Virgin Islands, which often rolls in all alone well before sunset. I have heard 1431 Djibouti a couple of times with decent signals and a few times with weak hets. 1089 UK and 1134 Croatia continue to be good every so often and Canaries on 621 has had strong signals a couple of times while most of the Spain outlets have been poor. On 6-24 the LW stations broke through the ever-present noise and I had fair to good signals on 153, 162, 171, 183, 216, 234, and 252 kHz. We are going to Ireland the middle of August and in October will take another river cruise, this time from Budapest to Amsterdam. The DXing will be fun.

Pan-American DX

- 760 **CUBA** *R.Rejoj*, Las Mercedes JUN 27 0910 - Fair; man in Spanish with news items, syncopated clock, minute markers and RR code IDs, in clear at times over presumed Colombia. [Conti-NH]
- 1140 **VENEZUELA** *La Voz del Caribe*, Porlamar JUN 17 0048 - "La Voz del Caribe" ID; booming in over CBI. Most other LA's were just mediocre at the time. Coastal location of this no doubt helps. [Connelly-MA]
- 1620 **US VIRGIN ISLANDS** WDHP Fredriksted, St. Croix MAY 26 0208 - Island music, group vocal, station dominating channel, big signal only on SE/S wire combination through modified MFJ phase canceller. Big scramble when switched to NE long wire. [Stromsted-MA]
- 1700 **MEXICO** XEPE Tecate, BCN JUN 19 0340 - Mexican music that sounds like US pop. This station has a very big signal when they are on the air. [Redding-AZ]

Transpacific DX

- 1098 **MARSHALL ISLANDS** V7AD Majuro JUN 10 1010 - Man, then a woman 1020-1032, sounded like Aussie accented English. + JUN 14 1025-1028 - Man and woman noted. [Moore-FL]
- 1116 **AUSTRALIA** unID JUN 14 1026 - Two stations here, 4 Hz subaudible heterodyne, one likely 4BC based on direction finding, jumble of audio down in noise. [Moore-FL]
- 1503 **NEW ZEALAND** *R.Sport* JUN 14 1017 - Sports discussion, male announcers. Audio still detectable at 1040, six minutes after local sunrise. Weak carrier still here at 1116, 42 minutes after local sunrise! + JUN 15 noted 1022-1024. [Moore-FL]
- 1512 **AUSTRALIA** 2RN JUN 14 1022-1035 - Assumed with talk show, male announcer. [Moore-FL]
- 1611 **AUSTRALIA** unID JUN 14 1015 - Jumble of audio, occasional music on top. [Moore-FL]
- 1629 **AUSTRALIA** unID JUN 15 1019-1033 - Jumble of hets and audio. [Moore-FL]
- 1647 **AUSTRALIA** unID JUN 15 1031-1034 - Fading in and out with occasional bursts of music on top. [Moore-FL]

Ray speaks: June 14 and 15 best "down under" reception in years, carriers all up and down the band.

Local sunrise 1034 here in southwest Florida. Anyone visiting in this area who would like to hear what transpacific signals sound like is welcome to drop in for a live demonstration. I can almost guarantee 10 or 20 carriers most mornings, audio is not as predictable.

Contributors

Mark Connelly WA1ION, Parker River NWR, Rowley MA; R8A, Superphaser-2, 152-m and 99-m wires at 90°, active whip. <MarkWA1ION@aol.com>

Bruce Conti, Nashua NH; R8B, MWDX-5, 15/23/15-m Ewe antennas east and south.

Ben Dangerfield, Wallingford PA; R8A, four slopers, DXP-3A phaser, Kiwa loop backup. <ben-dangerfield@verizon.net>

Ray Moore, North Fort Myers FL; homebrew receiver, Drake R8, 23-inch spiral loop, Comdel preamp. <Rsmcomm@netscape.net>

Kevin Redding, Mesa AZ; 1951 Zenith Transoceanic Model H500, Wavemagnet antenna. <amfmdx@fastq.com>

Erik Stromsted W1ZBT, Pepperell MA; Yaesu 1000MP, Palomar preselector, terminated long wires aimed northeast, southeast and south. <microwaveadvances@charter.net>

International News

MEXICO: Two changes: 560 XEPE has moved to 1700 kHz, where they should have gone in the first place. (There has been a standard X-band allocation on 1700 kHz in Tecate for about 5 years.) The 560 allocation dates back to the '70s, and if I recall correctly, was just for a 250w or 500w daytimer! Format remains the same, changed the slogan to "Romantica... Amor 1700 AM." XESS has moved from 780 to 620 kHz, and is accordingly now calling itself "La tropical 620." [Tim Hall, *Corazón DX*]

73 and Good DX!

Professional Sports Networks

Barry S. Finkel bsfinkel@ANL.gov

10314 S. Oakley
Chicago, IL 60643-2409

Network listings for team sports stations

Here is Major League Soccer (MLS) flagship information for the 2004 season. These data come mostly from www.mlssnet.com; some info comes from Internet google searches. I could not find the announcers' names for most teams. Many broadcasts are in foreign languages. And I believe that there are no networks.

Remember that I still lack some Major League Baseball network lists, and I have no information on Minor League Baseball broadcasts.

Chicago Fire	1030	WNVR-IL	PP	Jacek Zielinski, Zbigniew Kupcewicz
	1200	WRTO-IL	SS	
Colorado Rapids	950	KKFN-CO	EE h	Jason Kosmicki, Frank Kohlenstein
	1280	KBNO-CA	SS h	
Dallas Burn	910	KXEB-TX	SS	
Kansas City Wizards	1480	KCZZ-KS	SS	
Los Angeles Galaxy	1540	KMPC-CA	EE	
	1230	KYPA-CA	Korean	
San Jose Earthquakes	1590	KLIV-CA	EE	
	1370	KZSF-CA	SS	
Columbus Crew	103.9	WEGE-OH		
	1550	WXOL-OH		
D.C. United	1160	WMET-DC	EE	
	1540	WACA-MD	SS	
NY/NJ Metrostars	1280	WADO-NY	SS	
New England Revolution	850	WEEI-MA	EE	

h = home games only



DOUBLE Z • KCZZ • 1480 AM

SPANISH • RADIO

DX'er's Notebook

Shared tips, topics, and Internet info

Dave Braun dcbraun@comcast.com
863 Allabands Mill Rd.
Camden Wyoming DE 19934-2132

This column is based on the first message below from Mark Connelly on some more antenna comparisons at a recent DXpedition.

Mark Connelly <MarkWA1ION@aol.com>*** Antenna Shoot-Out: Rowley, MA ***

On the afternoon and early evening of Wednesday, 19 MAY 2004, I ran a series of antenna experiments at the Rowley, MA salt-marsh site (GC = 70.829 W / 42.745 N).

This was an assessment of the ability of five different antenna configurations to null out a variety of skip and groundwave domestic stations on bearings between 225 degrees (southwest) and 315 degrees northwest. Not only was the degree of nulling important but also, just as important, were the strengths of European, African, and Middle Eastern stations arriving on the opposite set of bearings: 45 degrees (northeast) clockwise to 135 degrees (southeast). In short, the antenna system producing the best ratio of desired Transatlantic stations to nulled domestic "pests" was the winner.

Each set-up consisted of two broadband antennas and the Superphaser-2 phasing unit ahead of the Drake R8A. The receiver and phasing unit were powered from the car battery DC supply.

Configurations were as follows:

1. 76 m (250 ft.) wire on the ground aimed west (unterminated) versus 152 m (500 ft.) wire on ground aimed east (terminated in salt water)
2. 76 m unterminated west wire versus active whip on car roof
3. 76 m unterminated wire on the ground aimed east versus 152 m terminated east wire
4. 76 m unterminated east wire versus active whip
5. 152 m terminated east wire versus active whip

The best set-up was #5, the 152 m wire versus the whip. At several points on the band, the intended foreign DX stations were quite a bit better with this arrangement than with any of the others. The 76 m east wire versus whip was also useful, though the amount of slop that Djibouti-1431 and some of the other DX stations were experiencing increased.

Any of the configurations using two wires on the ground showed weaker pick-up of low angle DX: this put them at a deficit to set-ups involving the active whip as one of the antennas when it came to reducing the ratio of high-angle skip to either low-angle DX or groundwaves. A good case in point was France on 1557 versus New York City on 1560. Anytime a wire was phased against the active whip, especially if the wire was the long terminated one, France was more in the clear than with any of the two-wire set-ups. Neil Kazaross had been recommending a longer on-ground wire phased against a shorter one but, at least in the salt-marsh setting, any of the shorter (under 100 m) wires on the ground seemed to be deficient in "low angle grab".

A fairly short whip (on the order of 2 m) actually has quite good low-angle pick-up, at least at seacoast locations. "A/B" tests with various loops and wires on/near the ground often show the whip to be better, especially in pre-sunset DX situations when the Transatlantics are coming in at a very low angle approximating groundwave and any advantage a loop or wire would have in side-nulling is minimal since domestic skip has not yet risen to an appreciable level.

Soon I will be getting one of MFJ's 3 m (10 ft.) telescoping whips with the idea of using it as a passive transformer-coupled antenna not requiring a buffer amplifier for adequate sensitivity.

As the evening progressed, a good deal of DX was heard with the preferred 152 m wire versus whip set-up. Kuwait - 1548 was blasting in and a good Radio Sawa ID was captured on tape for subsequent Web posting.

Other than the typical late-spring/ summer experience of getting nibbled by mosquitoes and gnats, the salt-marsh DX session was enjoyable and contributed considerably to my knowledge of what antennas to use on future DXpeditions.

Andersson Sigvard <Sigvard.Andersson@smhi.se>

Always interesting with antenna experiments!

I understand that many of you in North America just put your antennas on the ground. Have you made any tests comparing wires on the ground with wires e.g. 10 feet up (wire resting on poles or tree branches), signal strength and patterns? Or if interference is your problem, signal strength is not that important?

WMAQ
is gonna make me rich - 670 AM Radio

Once at a DXpedition one antenna gave weak signals so under the antenna we put a "signal return cable" on the ground which we connected to the antenna at both ends (balun/transformer and terminator resistor). We didn't find the result good enough so we disconnected it. But before we took it in, we compared the signal strength between the two wires (one in the air, one on the ground). I remember that the difference was quite audible, but we did not write down how many dB or S-unites it was.

Mark, you use the Superphaser-2 phasing unit. Are there any important differences comparing with a MFJ1026, which I'm familiar with?

When spending hours or days putting up a new antenna, that's when you're enjoying all new stations (which you are gonna hear).

Neil Kazaross <neilkaz@earthlink.net>Great work Mark, and off course I'll add my comments and also would like to get an active whip from you when if you have a spare one available or that I can borrow for my own tests. Using the whip as a phase antenna makes great sense for quickly DXped for several reasons. (I assume my Quantum Phaser works fine phasing whip vs. wire?)

- 1) You only have 1 BOG to real in in the dark when done.
- 2) Much more importantly BOGs in several directions can be installed at some sites and you simply use a switch to select direction and then phase vs. the whip. i.e. from the Cape, you may find a spot for a TA BOG and an LA BOG and you can phase either vs. the whip to null QRM.

It isn't surprising that you noted better results to the east with 500 feet rather than 250 feet. I have found that once one gets decently under 100m in length, BOG directivity drops off (although 290 feet is decent to TX/Mex in the upper half of the band) My 150 footer phased against the 290 footer really is too short to be a good antenna (but still very useful to phase null back end QRM, without adding much QRM from other directions)

My main Phased BOG system here in Barrington IL uses 500 feet west (sort of terminated to ground thru about 235 ohms) phase vs. a // 325 footer aimed west. The wires are slightly different directions due to my vegetation, but I've used Phased Bogs many times with the wires only separated by 2 feet.

My setup allows for good nulling of eastern QRM to DX from the west. It has a nice broadband null (typically a couple hundred kHz) and often when the back end is nulled, I get more signal from the intended direction with the two wires combined than I do with either wire alone. (Basically, in some cases, it seems that phase nulling the rear direction, results in the signals from the two wires being nearly in phase, and a flip of the phase reverse switch reverses this situation and nulls the opposite direction often with minimal retweaking.) I also can and do phase westerly QRM to DX the east.

Perhaps, there's too much phase diversity between the two wires when you run one in the opposite direction and you cannot maintain as good a null.

Here in America's Heartland, very low angle considerations are less important than by the coast, so I have less worry if the shorter BOG isn't optimal for low angle DX since its main purpose is as a phase antenna to deeply phase null rear QRM. However, in your case, the whip is aiding in the reception by being good for low angle early arrival skip from TA's. However, good low angle reception is always in need anywhere one DXes.

If you have time to do one more test, (It will only require placing a 99m east unterm. BOG// the 152m term one) you'll be able to replicate my setup here and test KAZ's Phased BOG system vs. Mark's BOG vs. Whip system.

- 1a. 99 m (325 ft.) wire on the ground aimed east (unterminated) versus 152 m (500 ft.) wire on ground aimed east (terminated in salt water)
5. 152 m terminated east wire versus active whip.

In Grafton WI I have room to use longer wires and was quite impressed with 817 ft // 589 feet (97 deg) although I don't think I had the length difference optimized for enhancing the opposite direction when rear QRM is phased out. A couple examples are the fact that WEMG 1310 (Camden NJ) was common on 1310 at night with WIBA phased and that WABC was audible during the day. I was less impressed on a later test with a BOG about 1100 feet long but this BOG was a quicky install and was bent a bit along my driveway and basically aimed about 65 degrees. At this length there was considerably back end attenuation due to the losses along the wire along the ground. (BOGs are lossy antennas) but, perhaps too much attenuation and too much length due to slow velocity of propagation as I wasn't terrible impressed with the side nulls. Shorter BOGs generally have fine side nulls. Perhaps on 1100 footer, the lack of straightness did real damage to the side nulls. However, it was fun to listen to CFYZ on 1280 (Toronto Airport TIS)

I found a spot on my land there where I can get a nearly straight 1000 foot BOG aimed about 80 deg and this should make for fine testing of lengths and testing of an elevated Bev vs. the BOG.

Bruce Conti <BACONTI@aol.com>

It would be interesting to compare the car roof-mounted short whip against a taller whip such as

the 15 to 20 ft whip that I've used in past DXpeditions. I've found that the whip does indeed perform better in terms of signal strength on the low angle signals over a wide direction, perhaps due to the more narrow directivity of a Beverage-length wire. I wonder if a 20-ft whip provides enough improved performance to be worth the effort versus the short whip?

Neil Kazaross <neilkaz@earthlink.net>

A couple of points to make here as good low angle pick up is certainly desired. Mark noted his best reception of Nice 1557 with the whip/BOG combo phased. I wonder if France would be better heard at Rowley on a BOG aimed 60 degrees than on one due east at 90 degrees. I suspect this would be so, and the difference between BOG and whip for pre-sunset arrival would be lessened. Two winters ago, here in IL I had two BOG approximately 100m long running into my shack via a low window. One was due west while the other was aimed due WSW...i.e. only 22.5 degrees different in bearing. In the upper band, GY's and even regionals clear differences in dominant stations were often heard. As an example, in the good conditions of Feb 2003 Amarillo was semi-dominant on 1310 of the WSW BOG but never a trace was heard on the W BOG. I'd often have an Oklahoma GYer in the mix on the WSW BOG while a Nebraska one was in the mix on the same channel on the W BOG.

However, it would certainly be interesting to use two whips spaced 90 degrees apart to generate a cardioid pattern to null back end QRM and hopefully get good low angle skip in the opposite direction.

Frederick R. Vobbe <fredv@nrcdxas.org>

Has anyone ever tried a CB whip mounted on a 6" round, 30 turn coil, which is mounted on a piece of 9" aluminum conduit? The feed would be from the bottom of the conduit, and the ground (counterpoise) is either the vehicle or a spread of #18 wires on the ground.

Andersson Sigvard <Sigvard.Andersson@smhi.se>

Isn't the whip supposed to pick up as LITTLE signal strength as possible from the low angle DX signals, only signal from the local "pest", which is supposed to be nulled in the phasing unit?

As the two antennas are so close to each other it is no real phasing, it is reduction: (Beverage signals minus whip signals). For phasing, the antennas should be more than 1/4 of a wavelength apart (and in the right direction compared with the directions of the desired stations and the "pest").

Mark Connelly <MarkWA1ION@aol.com>

Greetings to all. Several commented on whip antennas and the use of these as part of a two-antenna phased array.

In both of the above cases (cited by Bruce and Fred), a vertical greater in length than what I was using (about 1.8 m / 6 ft.) would capture more signal, therefore reducing the amount of amplification necessary. In the case of something 10 ft. or greater, it may be possible to use passive transformer matching for a workable broadband solution, or L-C tuning for narrowband coupling without the use of amplifiers. I have found that a short whip such as the MFJ-1024 can hear down to the usable noise threshold, at least at times of day when skip is present. Any greater length of antenna would primarily have the advantage of requiring less amplifier gain. This is certainly a good thing in urban areas where overload / spurs are quite likely with broadband high-gain amps. Larger size whips would also allow capture of more very-weak signals under daytime or auroral night time conditions. During ordinary night conditions away from strong locals, a 6 ft. amplified whip will DX almost anything that a substantially larger vertical will.

Below about 1/8 wavelength, the actual pick-up pattern (in terms of low-angle versus high-angle) probably doesn't vary much. Though a short whip shouldn't be a stellar low-angle performer, it does outperform on-ground (or only slightly elevated) horizontal wires that are less than 90 m / 300 ft. or, for that matter, small loops in terms of low-angle versus high-angle, at least in tests I've run at several coastal DXpedition sites.

(Regarding Andersson Sigvard's comments, two identical antennas can be end-fire phased with spacing as close as 1/10 wavelength before "collateral nulling" of desired (opposite) direction stations becomes excessive: that would be about 57 m / 187 ft. at 530 kHz and about 18 m / 59 ft. at 1700 kHz. A spacing of 60 m / 200 ft. is a good compromise value usable for the entire AM band. Very wide spacing (much over 1/3 wavelength) gets you into the problem of non-coherent ionospheric fading eating into the depth and stability of the null.

Non-identical antennas can be co-located and still be used as inputs to a phasing unit used to affect a null.

A real Beverage would be picking up a predominance of low-angle DX in the desired direction (and not much high angle). 100 to 500 ft. wires on the ground seem to get a lot of high angle with respect to

the off-the-end low angle DX.

There is some time difference between a whip and an on-ground wire of appreciable (> 60 m) length. The wire is integrating received signal from along its length, so its effective aggregate "arrival time" might be closer to that of an active whip located half the wire's length away from the receiving position, rather than being the same as the one sited right at it.

The fact that the wire's pick-up pattern is something like a lopsided figure-of-eight (less lopsided / more "loop-like" when the wire is shorter) while the whip is omnidirectional with better low angle to high angle means that the antennas are "different enough" to be phased even if the time delay is not much.

There is no time delay difference between incoming signals to a loop and a whip on the roof of the same car, but good cardioid patterns can still be produced with the phasing unit because you're shifting one signal (the "pest") where the amplitudes have been balanced and not nulling other signals (DX) whose amplitudes are unbalanced due to the differing pick-up patterns of the two antennas.

Also, the phase relationship of a signal off the back lobe of a loop (say west for a loop positioned for east-west pick-up) is 180 degrees different from signals from the front lobe (e.g. east) of the same loop. That's because the field induced in the loop coil is similar (in terms of "clockwise-ness") to the way a field is set up in a transformer winding.

Neil Kazaross (wondered about a beverage aimed at 60 degrees). I'd love to do this (also to aim something at 30 degrees for better India-1566 getting), but any bearing other than 90 degrees (due east) would require hip boots, a canoe, a bee-keeper's outfit, and an industrial drum of insect repellent. There's only one raised path through the salt-marsh and that's due east. Half the time parts of that path are under water too.

(Regarding using) "two whips spaced 90 degrees apart", Been there... done that... it works great. Two whips spaced 60 m / 200 ft. on an east-west line is one of my standard set-ups out in the Rowley salt-marsh (in October / November when the insect life is gone). I have heard India-1566 with this arrangement out there. Using the FCA-1 Feedline Coupling Adapter, I can also phase the 60 m coaxial feedline against either the whip on top of the car or the one out on the marsh path. Usually whip versus whip is the winner, but sometimes whip versus feedline can do a better job taking out nasty high-band NYC - Albany-etc. skip. A variation on this theme is separated broadband loops. This gives you more side rejection as well (though a somewhat poorer overall ratio of low angle DX to high angle pests). Luckily I don't have a significant due north / due south pest issue on that many channels from my usual DXpedition sites (Rowley, Rockport). Side rejection is not a big deal here: the name of the game is wasting all the crap coming in on bearings from southwest to northwest. At Granite Pier, with little available space, loop versus whip on the car is the best practical cardioid-producing plan. At Rowley, the two phased 60 m spaced whips, or the 90+ m terminated BOG versus whip, would be tops. During adverse weather (or exceedingly bad bug attacks) I've used car-top loop-versus-whip at Rowley as well. If it's a good TA night, there's not that big a difference. When it's auroral, the more wire you can get out, the better.

"(P)lacing a 99m east unterm. BOG // the 152m term one" should be easy enough to do. Somehow I think that the difference between this and the 152 m versus 76 m wire test isn't going to be that great. It is certainly worth a try.

Robert Foxworth <rfoxwor1@tampabay.rr.com>

Bruce, I am assuming that you don't use a single section antenna, but rather, are implementing this in sections. A long time ago I built a much shorter and flimsier whip out of sections of brass tubing with 6 inch collars soldered onto one end of each section, with each collar being an I.D equal to the O.D of the long section. It extended a few inches past the end of the main section, to hold the next main section in its cup. The tubing was 1/4 inch hobby shop stock.

I am guessing that a good whip could be made of sections of EMT with nylon guys, to reach such a height stably and reliably. I think there are couplings that allow the ends to attach stably. I never have looked into it, however.

Care to share with us how you physically implement a 20 foot whip? If you have done so, my apologies, I missed it.

Chuck Hutton <charlesh3@msn.com> Dunno what Bruce uses, but I use the MFJ whip which is about 30 feet.

Mark Connelly <MarkWA1ION@aol.com>

If I remember correctly, Bruce's arrangement consisted of a wire (about 14 gauge) supported by sections of PVC pipe that screwed together.



From: "Neil Kazaross" <neilkaz@earthlink.net>

This is a reply mostly to Mark's comments to me.

That is what I thought about the water (for using other angles for the beverage)...one possibility then is to compare the BOG phased vs. BOG (my method with both wires running East to the BOG vs. whip on a station that is closer to due east like Sao Tome 1530 or Mauritania 783 (likely 1530 is a better bet since you have something off the back to phase, but perhaps the BOG gets less CFDR than does the whip for 780?)

Here in the QRM jungle known as the midwest I need the better front to side ratio given by BOGs to reject NS QRM for EW DX and visa versa. The loop vs. whip phased system of yours would be a superb enhancement for those many many talented DXers in our hobby who cannot DX with decent outdoor antennas. This allows then the figure 8 pattern of a loop with its fine side nulls which they can vary as need be and also allows them to add the whip for phasing to select a cardioid pattern (also they can vary where to place the wide back null) as need to so that they, for example can null an eastern pest to DX to the west. Setups like this will be a big help in dealing with increasing IBOC QRM. For me, here I phase BOG vs. // BOG so that neither antenna introduces too much side QRM into the system. What do you think is better for your TA DX whip vs. whip or whip vs. BOG?

A key to my set up here in Barrington is that both wires run the same direction so I don't suffer the diversity effects I fear that occur when they run opposite directions. The difference in lengths is set so that, in general signals from the wanted direction are close to in phase when signals from the opposite direction are 180 degrees out of phase to produce the deep phase null. BTW, what resistance do you use to terminate your BOG?

In Grafton WI..most likely in the fall when conditions improve and bugs/etc go away (ever get poison ivy in April at a place where the leaves were just starting to bud?) I can test and compare various serious DX antenna setups. I can run wires many directions, but do to the lay of the land, the easiest test will be a 1000 foot true elevated Bev vs. a 1000 foot BOG both aimed about 80 degrees. I can run several hundred foot wires sloping down hill from about 125 feet height to Lake Michigan. I finally can test my broadside KAZ antenna array...i.e. I can space two KAZ antennas at least 400 feet apart (about 1/2 wave). These will be aimed east with a deep cardioid null to the west. The 1/2 wave spacing (off course only effective over a small part of the band) will give great side nulls. I can also phase to null one side or the other at any frequency.

Looking forward to see what I can learn.

Frederick R. Vobbe <fredv@nrcdxas.org>

Bob, you could use EMT, however it will bend, especially the 500".

However, if you look at the antenna we used for WNRC in 1999 in Bridgeport, that was put together from sections of aircraft grade aluminum tube that telescoped inside each other.

The product was obtained from Texas Towers. Here is the page that I ordered the tubes from.

<http://www.texastowers.com/aluminum.htm>

Note the chart on the right side of the page. Get (1) each of the top four pieces. These are made in such a way that they will slide into each other. Cut a slit down the pipe 1" on one end, and attach a hose clamp.

Working out the stress factors with a professor at OSU, we calculated for free standing you had to have at least 41% of a tube penetrated inside the tube below to withstand freestanding 60 km winds. If you can guy it off with light nylon rope, (a cinder block makes a good anchor), you penetrate 17.5%. (Assuming three point guy). On the guyed example that would give you just under 40 feet of antenna.

The antenna can be mounted using a Reese hitch with a glass insulator, (a Coke bottle cut and mounted in place of the ball).

For field day we put one of these up in 4 minutes and it worked great on 80 and surprisingly worked well on 160 with a coil in series and a ground attached to an outside hand water pump.

Mark Connelly <MarkWA1ION@aol.com> I know that there's a German company (the name escapes me at the moment) making fiberglass poles in the 20-30 ft. height range. Hams have been using these as dipole center supports and even to hold small VHF/UHF beams. There's no reason they couldn't be used to support a vertical wire (as Bruce does with the PVC sections) or one side of a Flag, Pennant, "big loop", etc. MFJ has a variety of telescoping whips. I have ordered the 10 ft. / 3 m model: it will likely be pressed into service in late July or August at this year's Boston Area DXers "Clams" outing at Granite Pier. Anyway thanks for the Texas Towers information... I'd like to see one of these set up. Maybe they will be at this year's ARRL Convention in Boxborough, MA (15 AUG).

Andersson Sigvard <Sigvard.Andersson@smhi.se>

Mark, as English is not my native language, I don't know if I understood you correctly, not even my

technical dictionary ENG-SWE could help me.

You mean that you manage better with phasing if the two antennas are closer to each other than 1/3 wavelength, with very wide spacing you get problem with the space wave? However the point is nulling an undesired station without nulling the desired station at the same time.

I'm surprised that you manage so good with your Beverage on the ground. I thought that the close ground should attenuate the signal and the pattern should be ruined. What is the most-low-powered TA station you've heard with such a Bev?

Mark Connelly <MarkWA1ION@aol.com>

As antennas are placed farther apart, the pattern of ionospheric fading differs in more of a random style than in a mathematically-predictable fashion (that what is heard at Antenna B is merely a time-shifted exact replica of what preceded or followed at Antenna A). Think of the ionosphere as a rough surface (like wrinkled aluminum foil illuminated by a spotlight) and think of its distance from that light varying as well as you move along the ground. The random nature of the distance and reflectivity (as well as effects of multiple arrival angles of different skip combinations) give rise to less stable nulling when two greatly-separated antennas are sent to a phasing unit. Closely-spaced antennas are more likely to have essentially the same propagation pattern presented to them with the only difference being the time shift based on which antenna is closer and which is farther from the arriving wavefront of interest. 1/8 to 1/4 wave spacing is about ideal from my experiences for cardioid patterns and up to 1/2 wave for figure-of-eight.

Down to about 1/10 wavelength spacing with similar antennas this should be possible. Spacing distance is far less critical if the pick-up patterns of the two antennas are substantially different, such as loop versus vertical whip, horizontal wire versus whip, loops at a right angle, or wires at a right angle.

The Beverage-on-ground does have less pick-up than a full size elevated beverage, but the pattern is still quite directional. With a matching transformer (in the 4:1 to 9:1 range) and a W7TUV-type amplifier (gain about 20 dB), the antenna is quite a capable performer. Stations from Spain running as little as 1 kW are heard quite frequently. In Europe, the farther north you go or the farther inland you go, the more power a station needs for successful reception. A station in Germany, Poland, or Scandinavia has to run a lot more power for the same signal strength than the stations on the low-loss paths to mouth-of-the-Mediterranean countries such as Spain, Portugal, and Morocco.

Sao Tome - 1530 does not come on the air until after my normal ~ 9:30 p.m. EDT departure time from DX sites. I usually don't hang around later than that because (a) It's almost an hour's drive home and I do like to see my family for a while before turning in for sleep so I can get up for work at 5:30 the next morning. and

(b) The likelihood of police or rowdy kids messing up your DX fun increases exponentially after 9 p.m.

1530 would be a good test channel. Vatican has gotten feeble there since "the old days" when nobody worried about "electrosmog" and when the church had plenty of money. Besides WSAI, the only other domestic nuisance - a minor one - is flea-powered WVBF in Middleborough, MA: pretty much due south of my two usual DX sites. Sometimes when I null WSAI, I can hear the 1529.55 (approx.) het from Uruguay. And 783 Mauritania: it's a good signal, but on ANY antenna the slop from CFDR-780, with its pattern out-of-whack, is like a chipper-shredder. It always was loud on the elbow of the Cape (Harwich/Chatham/Orleans), but its supposed null towards Chicago used to make it weaker from Boston northwards. Now it blasts in like ten tons of bricks throughout the area unless it's super-auroral (which means we only get its weaker groundwave in the jumble with R. Coro and ZBVI). What is a good test is WCAP-980 in Lowell, MA (due west: right off the back of the BOG) versus Algeria on 981. The Algerian signal often shows up an amazingly long time before sunset: something indicative of paths that are coastal on both ends. One note of caution. The loop versus whip phased system works very well at hand-picked sites having NO local electrical noise. Take that whip into the average suburban neighborhood and it becomes a notorious noise-getter. Even at the brother-in-law's house in East Harwich, with wiring underground, the whip was a "loser" unless placed 20-30 m away from the house. Two broadband loops at a right angle would be a better idea in the average residential setting. (The best setup for TA DX) depends on the frequency and whether the junk to be nulled is short-skip (NYC/Albany/Philly), longer-skip (midwest), or groundwave (locals). Out in that salt-marsh, both systems kick butt. There's no consistent winner. I did do one test of 152 m terminated versus 76 m unterminated, both running east. There just wasn't as much European DX signal strength left over after nulling things off the back as when I used 152 m wire versus whip. I doubt that going from 76 m to 99 m on the shorter wire would make a huge difference but I'll certainly give it a try before long I'd imagine that the BOG's laying on highly-conductive ground (marsh) are inefficient, particularly for low-angle pick-up versus high-angle. (For termination), when I did a twisted-pair wire feeding DC to a Vactrol box, I got slightly better front-to-back (maybe 5 dB on groundwave, less on skip) using about 150 to 200 ohms rather than

22

a direct connection to the 5 ft./ 1.5 m copper ground rod submerged in salt water. Even unterminated, the 152 m wire shows a decent amount of front-to-back, though optimal termination improves it by maybe 8-10 dB on certain "right off the back" groundwave stations from Lawrence, Lowell, Nashua, & Leominster-Fitchburg (also on lower-angle skip like WJR-760 Detroit). Most of the time I just chuck the end of the wire in the water: it seems to work fine. On a short unterminated wire, 890 can be fairly clear WBPS with just a slight het while Algeria-891 can be seriously spanking it on the terminated BOG. Neil, it's great that you have an antenna "playground" there in Grafton WI. I wish I had somewhere that I could do this kind of experimentation without having to worry about getting kicked out. Lack of no-hassle antenna test zones around here has kept me from trying a number of "on paper" projects of a considerably more ambitious and time-consuming nature. Whatever you find out, feel free to share it here on the list.

Radio Station gave 'play-by-play' of chaos in town

By Brittany Anas and Alicia Caldwell, Denver Post Staff Writers via Wayne Heinen

Granby - Folks here fixed their dials on a local radio network Friday, listening closely as a broadcaster hopped around town giving live updates of the day's chaos. Throughout the small town, KRKY-AM could be heard emanating from businesses and homes. It was the voice of information in restaurants, lumber yards and at the makeshift media center fashioned Friday night at a developer's office. The network began live broadcasting at 3:15 p.m., reporting that an armor-plated bulldozer was rumbling through the main street, ramming into businesses.

"I said, 'Let's be very descriptive,'" said network general manager M.R. Murray. "Let's have the facts, and don't embellish it. Just tell it how it is."

Residents kept their ears close to the radio as they tracked the targeted path of Marvin Heemeyer's bulldozer rampage and listened for evacuation orders.

"They were doing a good job, a real good job," said Mike Deits, owner of American Tile Works, which is next to the Xcel Energy building Heemeyer attacked.

Deits said he took his wife and got out of town shortly after he saw Heemeyer coming toward them.

Deborah Jackson, an office manager of an engineering firm in Granby, said she was listening to KRKY when she heard someone call in from Australia.

"Granby hasn't been on the map until now, and it's for the wrong reason," she said.

Gary Redfield, a KRKY reporter, worked the scene for hours. He said he was sitting on the front porch of his house in Granby when he heard a ruckus and saw people running from the town hall.

He grabbed his cellphone and called the station.

"We were doing play-by-play as this thing was ramming city hall," said Redfield, who usually announces high school sporting events.

His son, Sam Redfield, 16, kept watch on top of the hill that overlooked the town hall. He said he butted up as close as cop cars would allow him so he could feed scoops to his father.

The station has invited the town's newspaper, Sky-Hi News, to read morning news updates on the air since its building was among those damaged in the rampage.

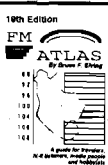
Murray also did an impromptu morning show Saturday to let residents talk on-air about the town's healing and re-building process.

The radio station has started a fund to help restore the businesses that were hit.

Whether it was old-school reporting or reminiscent of fireside chats of the 1930s or '40s, Murray said the network's role is to inform, and even calm the town.

"We've tried to hit a balance where we involve the community," Murray said. "Maybe it's how radio used to be. It might be hokey, but we keep up on lo-cal, community news."

Staff writer Chuck Plunkett contributed to this report.



Bruce Elving's FM Atlas ... 19th Edition
 The world-famous guide which has served FM DX'ers for over 20 years is available from NRC Publications at the special price of **\$19.00 for NRC USA/Canada members, \$22.00 USA/Canada non-members, \$25.00 for all others. NY orders, please add sales tax.**

God Bless AM Radio

By Harry A. Jessell, Broadcasting & Cable

via Ken Onyschuk

Of the electronic media, AM radio is the most neglected. It was the first, the progenitor of TV, FM, cable TV, satellite TV, VCRs, DVD and the Internet. For three decades, from 1920 to about 1950, it was king. But sometime in the 1950's radio lost electronic supremacy to TV. And then in the 1970s, AM fell behind FM. A lot of folks don't bother with AM at all anymore.

But last Thursday and Friday [August, 2003], at least in New York City, AM was on top of the heap. When the power went out on a hot summer afternoon at 4:13 last Thursday, what you needed were a bottle of water and a battery-powered portable radio with an AM tuner. Fortunately, I had both. Actually, Tad Smith, one of our corporate executives had the radio, but he held it out and passed it around so that all could hear the news.

It was the only way folks tumbling out of our building at 26th and Park Ave. had of knowing what was going on after the lights and computer flickered off.

(By the way, for AM's temporary return to eminence, Smith's radio was oddly suited. It was new model, but built to look like an AM-only transistor of the early 1950s. In fact, as a radio from that time might, its plastic housing proudly proclaimed that it was "Transistor"-then the state of the art.)

Of course, Smith's radio had an FM tuner as all radios must these days, but we kept it on AM. It was an AM day.

As everyone kinda knows instinctively, AM is where you go when the power goes out. After it lost the fidelity war with FM, AM reinvented itself around news and talk. If you are lucky, you live in a town where one of the AM stations still has reporters on the street and takes local news seriously. New York is fortunate to have several.

All Thursday night and into Friday, I stuck to WCBS, Infinity's all-news station at 880 Khz. It had reporters scattered throughout Manhattan and one circling overhead in a helicopter.

None had much to say, but all provided reassurance that things in Manhattan were not unraveling, that people were behaving themselves and, without actually saying so, that everything would be all right in the end.

AM has some inherent disadvantages to FM. Not only does AM sound worse, it is susceptible to noisy interference from lightning and electrical devices of all kinds. You don't want to drive near the power lines during a key moment in the ball game.

The medium has been badly mistreated over the years. When radio makers noticed that listeners were migrating to FM, they accelerated the march by putting more money into the FM tuners and less into the AM. Some of the AM tuners are so bad you wonder why the manufacturers still bother. This is especially true of the tuners built into CD and tape players and those little sports radios for joggers.

The FCC has also damaged AM. For years, it had a policy of cramming as many stations into the band as it could until it practically collapsed under its own weight. After a while, it was tough to find where one station began and another ended, especially at night when AM signals tend to go wild.

For all that, AM still has some wonderful qualities. In every market, there are still a handful of stations with the juice and the antennas to lay down a signal powerful enough to pop from any radio, no matter how cheaply built. And these signals know how to propagate, how to get into every nook and cranny, and cover entire metropolitan areas seamlessly.

AM ain't what she used to be, but it's still an important role player, and keeping the band strong and healthy is, I think, a matter of national security. AM radios are cheap and ubiquitous and they require little power. Should things really go bad in this country, AM is the most surest way of reaching the citizenry. A handful of the old clear-channel stations can cover the entire nation. And in a pinch you can build a receiver with a handful of wire and some headphones. You don't even need batteries.

They say that after the apocalypse, after mankind finally destroys itself in a nuclear holocaust, the hardiest species - the cockroach - will inherit the earth. If so, I know what they will be listening to.

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.