

DX News

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Volume 72, No. 21 - February 28, 2005 (ISSN 0737-1659)

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From the Publisher ... Those of you who want to do something positive for your club, kindly read Ken Chatterton's Musing on p. 15.

Reverend Jim Renfrew (congrats on your upcoming marriage, Jim ... and say goodbye to the DX equipment in your living room, hi) asked an interesting question, which piqued my interest, too, that being how many NRC members are there in each state in the U. S.? And here's the answer: AK-2, AL-7, AR-4, AZ-8, CA-49, CO-9, CT-19, DC-1, DE-4, FL-24, GA-9, HI-2, IA-4, ID-3, IL-29, IN-12, KS-6, KY-7, LA-3, MA-33, MD-12, ME-3, MI-15, MN-7, MO-14, MS-2, MT-2, NC-16, NE-5, NH-5, NJ-36, NV-1, NY-37, OH-26, OK-4, OR-5, PA-47, RI-2, SC-3, SD-1, TN-13, TX-18, UT-4, VA-16, WA-8, WI-11, WV-4. Plus more in Canada and other points in the world, including all continents except Africa. And Antarctica. Now, I'll let you draw the lines and count the members in whatever geographical division you wish, but the above list will tell you exactly where the members are, so you don't need

to speculate as to the distribution of NRC members.

Note that #22 is the last weekly DXN for this season; we start skipping weeks after #22 and go monthly again from April through September.

DX Time Machine

From the pages of DX News:

50 years ago ... from the February 26, 1955 DXN: Ralph Sperry, Trumbull, CT, reported that he logged VOUS-1480, McAndrew Air Base, Newfoundland, at 0600 s/on on 11/29 and that his verie states that his was the first report from the States to this 50-watter. Editor Ernie Cooper noted that he hs a verie from the World War II years, from VOUS-Fort Pepperrell, Newfoundland.

25 years ago ... from the February 25, 1980 DXN: Ernie Cooper reported that the Voice of Cuba was broadcasting in EE to NA via a high-powered AM transmitter on 600 kHz and wondered if the change might have been due to his mentioning, while on a visit to RHC 12/27 with Ron Schatz, the advantages of MW transmissions?

10 years ago ... from the February 27, 1995 DXN: Mark Connelly, MA, reported hearing CMKV-600 in SS, parallel to 710, in SS on 2/14.

(And a thanks to Kermit Geary, Walnutport, PA, who is the only DXN editor who labors without a byline to produce the 50-year-ago items for this column -pls.)

DXN Publishing Schedule, Volume 72

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

Want news of DX and discussion online?

Join the NRC AM e-mail list! The list is a service of the National Radio Club and is free. This list is not a part of your *DX News* or DX Audio Service subscription. Discussions should be of technical nature, observations, and information on DX and Radio listening. Logs and discussion about receptions are welcomed. Announcements of DX tests and results are encouraged. How-to articles, FCC/CRTC actions, product reviews, and self-authored articles will also be welcomed.

There are two flavors of the AM List: Regular and Digest:

To subscribe to the Regular list (e-mails sent to you "live"), send a message to am-subscribe@nrndxas.org. In the subject field put the word "subscribe" (without quotes). In the body of the message put your real name. To subscribe to the Digest list (a larger e-mail typically sent once a day, with every posting), Send a message to am-digest-subscribe@nrndxas.org. In the subject field put the word "subscribe" (without quotes). In the body of the message put your real name. It's that easy!

AM Switch

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North Richland Hills, TX 76180-5552

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

CALL LETTER CHANGES

Old Call		New Call
1150 KRMZ	OR	Portland
1230 WCMA	MS	Corinth
1310 KBMV	MO	Birch Tree
1560 WTKN	AL	Daleville
		KXMG
		WTKN
		KACE
		WCMA



CPs ON THE AIR

900 WYCV	NC	Granite Falls - CP to increase their daytime power to become U1 2500/251 is on the air.
980 WHSR	FL	Pompano Beach - WHSR has been granted Program Test Authority for their CP to increase night power to become U4 5000/2200. WHSR is also consolidating their two-site operation to the current day site of three towers at N26-20-06 W80-15-55 to accommodate the new night pattern.
1020 WOQI	PR	Adjuntas - WOQI has been granted Program Test Authority for their CP to remove two of their three towers and decrease their night power to become U1 1000/280.
1090 WTSB	NC	Selma - CP for D1 9000/0 CH 1700 is on the air.
1250 WMTR	NJ	Morristown - CP for U5 5000/7000 is on the air.
1340 WLVL	NY	Lockport - CP to go non-DA during the day is on the air. WLVL is now U1 1000/1000.
1410 WQBQ	FL	Leesburg - CP for U5 10000/90 is on the air.

GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES

1270 KFLC	TX	Fort Worth - Licensed for U3 5000/5000 KFLC has a CP to add a seventh tower to their array and increase the day power level to be U4 50000/5000. This CP slightly alters the night parameters with a slight change in the pattern.
1350 WKCU	MS	Corinth - CP granted to increase daytime power and decrease nighttime power to become U1 900/44.
1400 WPAY	OH	Portsmouth - CP granted to decrease power to become U1 800/800.

APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES

740 WMIN	WI	Hudson - Application is for D3 2500/0.
910 KECR	CA	El Cajon - Correction in coordinates to N32-53-44 W116-55-32.
1060 WCGB	PR	Juana Diaz - Applies to lower the height of its tower from 228' to 195'.
1140 KLTk	MO	Southwest City - Applies to move the city-of-license (CoL) to Centerton, Arkansas with D1 1000/0 and di-plex the signal into one of the towers of KURM-790 Rogers, Arkansas.
1300 KSET	TX	Silsbee - Applies to change CoL to Lumberton, Texas with their current facilities of D1 500/0.
1540 WBCO	OH	Bucyrus - Coordinate correction to N40-45-51 W82-56-05.

AMENDMENTS TO CONSTRUCTION PERMITS SUBMITTED

600 WSNL	MI	Flint - These guys can't make up their minds . . . Licensed for U4 1000/500, WSNL first applied for U4 450/380 with a CoL change to Swartz Creek, then filed for and was granted a CP for U4 250/192 from a new transmitter location, but back at Flint. Then they filed for U4 440/192 from Flint. Now they want U4 440/250. That is all. For now. Out.
1010 KCPW	UT	Tooele - Licensed for U7 50000/13 CH 3100, KCPW has a CP to increase their night and CH power levels to become U8 50000/178 CH 35000 from a new transmitter location at N40-43-15 W112-2-29. This amendment requests U8 50000/225 CH 35000 plus change their CoL to Magna, Utah from the new site.

AMENDMENTS TO APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED

660 KGDP	CA	Orcutt - Licensed for U4 10000/1000, KGDP has applied to move to a new two-tower site with U4 2500/2500 and a CoL change to Oildale. KDGP is currently operating under a Special Temporary Authorization from an interim site with U1 2500/250. This amendment requests to change the transmitter location of the new site.
810 NEW	AK	Knik-Fairview - Original application was for U4 50000/20000. This amendment requests U4 45000/45000 on 800 kHz.
1000 WWOE	SC	Walhalla - Licensed for D1 1000/0, WWOE applied to change CoL to Lithia Springs, Georgia with D1 5000/0 CH 3800 on 890 kHz from a new tower site. This amendment requests the same facilities, but using two transmitter locations.
1080 WNWl	IL	Oak Lawn - Licensed for U2 3000/900, WNWl applied for U2 3000/2600 which was dismissed. This action requests reconsideration with altered nighttime parameters yielding more protection to WTIC.
1370 WGHC	GA	Clayton - Licensed for D1 2500/0, WGHC had applied for D1 5000/0 CH 3800 with a change in CoL to Mount Holly, North Carolina on 870 kHz. This amendment requests D1 3000/0 CH 3000 on 870 from Mount Holly. [Correction to item in Issue 19]
1530 WRPM	MS	Poplarville - Licensed for D1 10000/0 CH 1000, WRPM applied to move to 1170 kHz with D4 10000/0 CH 5000. When the FCC dismissed that application due to overlap with a proposed new station on 1160 kHz in Saraland, Alabama, they sent in this amendment to reduce the daytime power level to 5 kW. Plus, when WVMl-570 turned in their license after their expanded band station WTNI-1640 came on, WRPM applied for D3 1000/3 on 570. Busy. Busy.
1580 WTTN	WI	Watertown - Licensed for U1 1000/6, WTTN has a pending application to change the CoL to Columbus, Wisconsin, move the transmitter site, and change facilities to D1 470/0 CH 470. Then came an amendment for D1 1500/0 CH 460. This latest amendment requests U1 1500/6 CH 460.

APPLICATIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION

1050 KTBA	AZ	Tuba City - Licensed for U1 5000/6, KTBA initially applied to move to 760 kHz with U1 580/85. Then they amended the application to read U1 250/85. The FCC dismissed the application on 1/27/05 and the applicant filed for reconsideration on 1/31/05.
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APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES DISMISSED

1700 KVNS	TX	Brownsville - Application was to increase day and night power to become U1 10000/1000.
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APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

940 NEW	MT	Dillon - Application is for U4 50000/760.
1180 NEW	MN	Baxter - Application is for U15 50000/5000 CH 5000 [U15 is non-DA days, and the same pattern nights and CH].
1340 NEW	NM	Ruidoso - Application is for U1 1000/1000.
1340 NEW	AZ	Nogales - Application is for U1 250/250.
1530 NEW	GU	Agana - Application is for U1 250/250.

LICENSE RENEWALS GRANTED

1280 WNAM	WI	Neenah-Menasha	1450 WMIQ	MI	Iron Mountain
1400 WKNW	MI	Sault Sainte Marie	1450 KIRX	MO	Kirkville
1400 WDUZ	WI	Green Bay	1570 KQWC	IA	Webster City
1440 WROK	IL	Rockford	1590 KWBG	IA	Boone
1440 WDOV	MI	Dowagiac	1600 KPGA	IA	Algona

NORTH OF THE 49TH PARALLEL

□ The application from CPCS-1490 Port Elgin, Ontario to move to 97.9 MHz with 3.8 kW has been approved by the CRTC. In other CRTC action, CHAT-1270 Medicine Hat, Alberta has applied to convert to the FM band by moving to 94.5 MHz with 100 kW at 175.8 metres, and CHOR-1450 Summerland, British Columbia has applied to move to 94.5 MHz with 250 Watts at -177.6 metres.

HEAR AND THAR

- It has been heard through the grapevine that **WRKN-970 Brandon, Mississippi** has gone silent. But the former silent **WHEW-1380 Franklin, Tennessee** has returned with a Regional Mexican format and slogan "La Ley".
- Thanks to **Shawn Axelrod, Wayne Heinen, Deane McIntyre, and you!**

GRAVEYARD DX UPDATE

* indicates record held by DXer from North America (excluding Alaska)

1230 kHz:					Miles			
KSTC	CO	Sterling	Bruce Winkelman	Tulsa, OK	499			
1340 kHz:								
WWFL	FL	Clermont	Brett Saylor	State College, PA	872			
KSMO	MO	Salem	Les Rayburn	Helena, AL	400			
KSID	NE	Sidney	John Wilkins	Wheat Ridge, CO	*146			
1450 kHz:								
KSQP	SD	Pierre	John Wilkins	Wheat Ridge, CO	399			
TOTALS:								
		1230	1240	1340	1400	1450	1490	TOTAL
Brett Saylor	State College, PA	21	17	19	16	1	24	98
Bruce Winkelman	Tulsa, OK	15	14	3	17	13	11	73

Domestic DX Digest

West: Bill Dvorak westlogs@aol.com

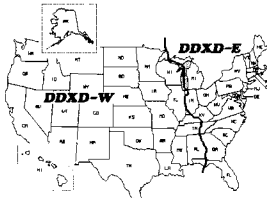
501 Algoma St. - Madison, WI 53704-4812

East: Ginnie Lupi DDXD-E@nycap.rr.com

PO Box 4404 - Clifton Park, New York 12065-0853

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

(Division line is between East and Central time zones)



DDXD-West

From the Vast Westland

- The highest point in the **Vast Westland** is Mount McKinley AK at 20,320 feet or 6,194 meters. The lowest point in the **Vast Westland** is Death Valley CA at minus 280 feet or minus 85 meters. Sort-of reminds me of the highs and lows of this DX season!
- Speaking of this DX season, it is hard to believe but next week's issue is the last weekly *DX News* for Volume 72. After that we go biweekly for three issues, and then we begin monthly issues in May. DDXD-W deadlines (all Thursdays) for the three biweeklies are: #23 3/10; #24 3/24 and #25 4/7. E-mail deadlines on those dates are 1300 ELT, while deadline for USPS mail will be that day's delivery.
- For the last time until this Fall, CUN7! (After this, it will be multiples of 7) 73 Bill

Reporters

- JJR-WI** John J. Rieger, South Milwaukee. Icom IC-R75, Kiwa loop, MFJ-959B tuner-preamp.
- JW-CO** John Wilkins, Wheat Ridge. Drake R-8, 4-foot box loop, 100-foot LW.
- PG-CO** Patrick Griffith, Westminster. Drake R-8 and Kiwa loop.
- RA-CA** René Auvray, DXing from Los Angeles International Airport, Westchester. Audiovox in a 2001 Ford Crown Victoria.
- RT-MN** Rick Turner, Bemidji. Radio Shack TRF 12-655, Select-A-Tenna 541.
- Ed.-WI** Your editor, Madison. Drake R8B, Quantum QX Pro loop.

Presumed, Tentative, UnID

- 1120 **KZSjp CA** San Martin. 2/16 0852. Guy and gal chatting in Vietnamese; a vocal selection at 0853 was followed by more chat, going past TOH and into another song. Presumed, with Vietnamese language and mentions of San Jose. Fair at best, with KMOX having faded away. (JW-CO)

Regular DX Loggings (times in ELT)

- 550 **KFYR ND** Bismarck. 2/5 0713. Poor but detailed weather, area temperatures, chatter. Finally calls at 0715. (JJR-WI)
- 590 **KOMJ NE** Omaha. 2/12 2247. ID as "Great songs and great stars from Omaha, Hastings, and Bellevue, The Magic 5-90" and into song "Times of Your Life" by Paul Anka. (PG-CO)
- 590 **KSUB UT** Cedar City. 2/12 2253. "Talk Radio 5-90, KSUB" and back into basketball play by play with SUU Thunderbirds vs Centenary. Numerous local ads. (PG-CO)
- 730 **KKDA TX** Grand Prairie. 2/13 0100. "Rhythm and blues, jazz, gospel and news, Soul 73 KKDA Grand Prairie-Forth Worth-Dallas", then into promo for morning news program and R&B song. (PG-CO)
- 770 **WYHG GA** Young Harris. 2/13 0700. Poor with KJCB QRM with apparent ID "This is WYHG Copper Hill Tennessee...." Never said the "Young Harris" part of the ID. Studios are in Copper Hill. NEW! (JJR-WI)
- 770 **KJCB LA** Lafayette. 2/13 0700. Poor. ID and "song for the hour." Urban gospel. No WABC at all. NEW! (JJR-WI)
- 930 **WKY OK** Oklahoma City. 2/10 0200. Slogan "Supertalk 930 WKY" heard numerous times. "Oklahoma's first (or finest?) station since 19(41?), AM 930 WKY Oklahoma City" into news. Subject to fading. (RT-MN)
- 930 **KKIN MN** Aitkin. 2/10 0906. AP Network News (NRC Logbook says USA...one and the same?). (No— they must have changed news services. Ed.-WI) "Your home for the Music of your Life, AM 930 KKIN." (RT-MN)
- 930 **KOGA NE** Ogallala. 2/10 0920. Morning news sponsored by an unID business in Julesburg. News items concerned North Platte, the Keith County Citizen's Core Group in Ogallala, the Nebraska Department of Health, an accident on I-80 and the Nebraska State Patrol. KKIN nulled. Gone by 0920. (RT-MN)
- 930 **WAUR IL** Sandwich. 2/10 2300. Catholic programming, an invitation to call "Open Line Live." "This is Relevant Radio, WAUR." (RT-MN)
- 940 **CJGX SK** Yorkton. 2/11 0207. Broadcast News, then "Your source for news and great music GX-94", into C&W. (RT-MN)
- 940 **CINW QC** Montreal. 2/11 2300. "The news never stops on Newswatch 940, CINW Montreal" followed by news. Is this ex-CBM? (RT-MN) (It was given the frequency when CBM moved to FM a few years back. Ed.-WI)
- 940 **WFAW WI** Fort Atkinson. 2/12 0000 "Jefferson County's source for news, AM 940 WFAW Fort Atkinson" into ABC news. (RT-MN)
- 950 **WNTD IL** Chicago. 2/12 0100. SS programming with ID in EE at TOH, "AM 950 WNTD Chicago." (RT-MN)
- 950 **CFAM MB** Altona. 2/12 1300. "This is CFAM news" at TOH. (RT-MN)
- 950 **WWJ MI** Detroit. 2/12 2305. CBS news, followed by "All news all the time, this is Newsradio 950 WWJ Detroit". (RT-MN)
- 960 **KMA IA** Shenandoah. 2/13 0100.—Heard them just before sign-off. "You're listening to radio station KMA in Shenandoah, Iowa on an assigned frequency of 960 kilohertz. KMA is owned and operated by KMA Broadcasting...We will return at six am this morning. The time is now 12:01. Good night and good morning." NRC Log gives the hours of operation as 0600-0100. (RT-MN) (This sign-off was on a Saturday night. Could it be that they do not sign on until 6 AM Central Sunday, 5 AM Central the rest of the week? KMA is the *only* station licensed fulltime that I can with any regularity hear sign off. How times have changed, and *not* for the better! Ed.-WI)
- 960 **KLTF MN** Little Falls. 2/13 1205. ABC news and local weather. "AM 960 KLTF." (RT-MN)
- 960 **WSBT IN** South Bend. 2/13 1805. In briefly with CBS news, local weather and call sign ID. QRM from co-channel splatter. (RT-MN)
- 960 **WTCH WI** Shawano. 2/14 0007. CBS news, mention of "The WTCH Farm Show" and Appreciation Day in Shawano. "Start your morning right with...AM 960, WTCH", then into C&W. Dominated the frequency briefly until lost to a talk show from an unID station. (RT-MN)
- 970 **WDAY ND** Fargo. 2/14 0100. "970 WDAY" jingle ID into ABC news. (RT-MN)
- 980 **CJME SK** Regina. 2/15 0206. Weather report for the Regina area. "News talk radio, 980 CJME." (RT-MN)

980 **KKMS MN** **Richfield. 2/15 0455.** "Walk In The Word" with Pastor James. "More spirit than talk radio, this is AM 980 KKMS Richfield-Minneapolis-St. Paul." Subject to occasional deep fades, replaced by a tentative KMBZ. If it is more spirit than talk, then why do they broadcast so many back-to-back sermons? (RT-MN)

980 **KDSJ SD** **Deadwood. 2/15 0900.** "Instant news and best music, AM 98 KDSJ Deadwood. It's seven o'clock" into ABC news. (RT-MN)

980 **WCUB WI** **Two Rivers. 2/15 2158.** Election results of some sort for Sheboygan and other towns. Invitation for listeners to listen to "AM 980 WCUB" in case of serious weather. KKMS nulled. Gave three towns during their TOH ID...Two Rivers, Manitowoc and Sheboygan. (RT-MN)

990 **CBW MB** **Winnipeg. 2/16 1300.** Message by a member of the Progressive Conservative Party of Manitoba, Time check of 12pm CST, CBC coverage of the cancellation of the NHL season, weather for Manitoba and surrounding area. IDs as CBC Radio 1. (RT-MN)

1090 **KVOP TX** **Plainview. 2/11 2148.** Sports talk show; ads at 2157, then legal ID at 2159:55; CBS news at 2200 was followed by weather at 2104, and a promo for Texas Tech Red Raider basketball ticket info; more sports talk followed. Good on peaks, with fading, in null of local KMXA. (JW-CO)

1090 **KAAY AR** **Little Rock. 2/13 1958.** Last couple minutes of "World Vision Report", then legal ID at 2000: "The Power and the Glory, this is KAAY Little Rock," followed by USA Radio news. Good signal with local KMXA off the air for a few minutes. Not a common log on this side of town since my null direction for local KMXA is basically N-S. (JW-CO)

1140 **KCLE TX** **Cleburne. 2/11 2137.** Halftime show of Cleburne Yellow Jackets vs. Joshua Owls basketball game; ads for cars, banks, and pizzas; program note for music program "on Classic Country 1120 and 1140"; call letter ID's also noted. Good, with fading, mixing with XEMR. (JW-CO)

1200 **WRTO IL** **Chicago. 2/13 0749.** Latino pop vocals, with some SS versions of US pops; canned "La Tremenda" slogans; Spanglish ID at 0759:35 "This is WRTO Chicago, una emisora de Radio Cadena Univision, La Tremenda, 1200 AM..." Have been chasing this for a while but have not IDed it until now. Doubt if they use call letters except at TOH. Fair signal with fading in WOAI null but mixing with 2 other SS stations from Mexico. A needed call change here, ex-WLXX. (JW-CO)

1260 **KWSH OK** **Wewoka 2/11 2244.** Ovaltine ad and Hallmark TV program note; call letter ID and "We play the best Country around," which they then proved by playing a C&W tune. Fair in the mix. (JW-CO)

1330 **WVHI IN** **Evansville. 2/13 0630.** Poor. Calls between religious shows. Alone. (JJR-WI)

1340 **KGFW NE** **Kearney. 2/14 0159.** Simple ID punching through QRM: "KGFW Kearney...", then CBS news. Poor in null of local KCFR. (JW-CO)

1360 **KRKK WY** **Rock Springs. 2/14 0840.** Area weather (chance of snow), local event announcements, call ID, then Carly Simon song. Fair in KHNC null. (JW-CO)

1380 **KFNI TX** **Pleasanton. 2/15 1934.** Religious vocals, man at 1937 giving station address and phone number, both agreeing with NRC Log, then more music to EE/SS TOH ID: "KFNI 1380 AM Pleasanton-San Antonio. Esta estacion que renda su espacio al aire...", and mentioned that views expressed are not necessarily those of KFNI. More music followed. Good on peaks - doubt if they were on 165-watt night power. Last heard as KBOP a few years ago. (JW-CO)

1380 **KXCA OK** **Lawton. 2/15 2059.** PSA on First Amendment rights; legal ID at 2059:53 "The Ticket, AM 1380 KXCA Lawton-Fort Sill-Duncan" and into ESPN Sports Center. Good peak at ID time. (JW-CO) (How often does *that* happen? Ed.-WI)

1460 **CJOY ON** **Guelph. 2/14 1858.** Good, with minor QRM from KXNO. Oldies; ID "Good Time Oldies CJOY." (Ed.-WI)

1490 **KOSR NE** **Omaha. 2/15 0559.** Station ID at 0559:53 "Fox Sports Radio 14-90 KOSR Omaha...", then Fox program at 0600. Poor in the zoo. Last heard many moons ago as KYNN; never did log it as KEZO. (JW-CO)

1570 **KNDY KS** **Marysville. 2/16 0159.** Legal ID at 0159:53 "Your home for the Kansas State Wildcats, AM 1570 KNDY Marysville" and into ABC news. Not very strong - barely made out ID. Still listed as a daytimer in Log. (JW-CO)

1590 **WAIK IL** **Galesburg. 2/15 2146.** Nostalgia and Doo-wop tunes; "WAIK Community

Club" announcements; local spots; call IDs; legal ID at 2201 "Wake up Galesburg...The Breakfast Club on WAIK Galesburg," then more music. Fair or better on both loop and LW, with their 55 watts night power (yeah, right). Have not heard this in loooong time. (JW-CO)

TIS, HAR, Etc.

1040 **WPWA745 CA** **El Segundo. 1/31 1035.** Weak reception with traffic information and city news. Repeats every two to three minutes. (RA-CA)

1620 **WPTV929 CA** **Malibu. 1/31 1045.** Mentions of slogan "Malibu on the Move" with call ID noted. Information on Pacific Coast Highway (State Route 1) available by calling 310-456-9986. Fair to weak. First time. (RA-CA)

DDXD-East

REPORTERS

DA-NJ **David Allaway, Neshanic Station - JRC NRD-93, Kiwa Loop.**
JLB-NY **Jerry Bond, Rochester - Hammarlund HQ-140-XA and 3 foot loop antenna.**
MKB-ON **Mike Brooker, Toronto - Grundig YB-400PE; Panasonic RF-2200.**
MC-NJ **Mike Clancy, Jersey City - DX-396.**
HJH-PA **Harry Hayes, Wilkes-Barre - Zenith Trans Oceanic, Kiwa Pocket Loop.**
RJ-NC **Russ Johnson, Lexington - Sony 2010, Icom R75 and longwires.**
IEN-GA **Ira Elbert New, III, Watkinsville - Drake R8B and 135' N/S Wire.**
IEN*GA **Ira Elbert New, III, Watkinsville - SANGHEAN ATS 909.**
IEN+GA **Ira Elbert New, III, Watkinsville - 2002 Nissan Sentra GXE In-Dash Audio System.**

PRESUMED

940 **WKGMP VA** **Smithfield - 2/7 1744 - Presumed.** Strong in local WROC-950 splatter with promo for a show called "A Word in Season" on Sundays and using slogan "the ministry station." (JLB-NY)

1420 **WCOJP PA** **Coatesville - 1/23 2136 - "Wishin' and Hopin", "Shadows in the Moonlight" and "It's a Beautiful Morning", followed by a partially heard singing ID: "W-J". Moderate interference from local 1430-WNSW made hearing the ID difficult. (MC-NJ)**

1480 **WPFJP NC** **Franklin - 2/12 1815 - Presumed with religious music. Weak signal mixed in the static that faded in and out. "1480, The Dove". (IEN*GA)**

STATION LOGGINGS

580 **WTAG MA** **Worcester - 1/31 0046 - Matt Drudge Show followed by ads for Smuggler's Notch, Teacher of the Month, and The Jordan ? Show (Monday-Friday, 4-7 PM). ID: "We have the Crusaders and the Red Sox - Holy Cross and the Red Sox on news/talk 580 - WTAG." Good/fair with fading. Local 570, WMCA, was off the air. (MC-NJ)**

710 **WROM GA** **Rome - 2/15 0750 - Local weather forecast and ad for Cingular Wireless Store in Cedartown, GA. Weak, but steady. "Your WROM Forecast..." (IEN+GA)**

730 **WMTC KY** **Vanleve - 2/7 1759 - Heard with ID, in and out competing with Dave Ramsey Show on WPIT. (JLB-NY)**

760 **WCIS NC** **Morganton - 2/13 1815 - Very strong with sign off. Mention 3500 watts and "...helping to spread the gospel... for the Foothills." (HJH-PA)**

780 **WWOL NC** **Forest City - 2/2 1814 - sign off with ID voice over to tune of "My Country 'tis of Thee". (DA-NJ)**

790 **WIST NC** **Thomasville - 2/13 1748 - Strong with slogan "790-The Ball" and "The Triads Sports Leader", went into Fox Sports Radio coverage. No call mentioned, nor is one present on their website. (HJH-PA)**

950 **CFAM MB** **Altona - 2/11 0700 - over nulled WWJ with C&W song, top of hour ID as "It's 6 o'clock, -3 degrees in Altona, -1 in Winkler, this is CFAM news" into provincial news. (MKB-ON)**

1110 **WTBQ NY** **Warwick - 2/1 1757 - "AM 1110" slogan, IDs and promo for an upcoming NASCAR broadcast. (JLB-NY)**

WSFW NY **Seneca Falls - 2/15 0658 - faded up over WBT with local weather, ad for Finger Lakes Limousine rentals, promo for fingerlakes1.com web site, top of hour non-legal ID as "it's 7 o'clock on the Finger Lakes News Network" into ABC news. (MKB-ON)**

1130 **WLBA GA** **Gainesville - 2/5 1200 - Music with a Spanish flavor. S9 with slight static.**

- "...WLBA, Gainesville" and "La Favorita, Spanish Radio Network." (IEN-GA)
- WWBF FL **Bartow** - 2/13 0030 - Oldies. 5 over S9 with a steady signal. "Oldies 1130, WBF". (IEN-GA)
- WISN WI **Milwaukee** - 2/13 0100 - Local news, sports and weather, and then into Coast to Coast AM. 15 Over S9 with slight splatter from KMOX in St. Louis, Missouri on 1120. "Newstalk 1130, WISN". (IEN-GA)
- 1140 CHR AB **High River** - 2/6 0049 - ID as "Southern Alberta's community radio station, AM 1140". Soft C & W. Fade-ins at approximately 5 minute intervals over WRVA null. (DA-NJ)
- 1150 WMRD CT **Middletown** - 2/6 2100 - ID as "WLIS Old Saybrook and ...1150 Middletown". CNN News, tapes of old-time radio programs. Periodic fade-ins over CKOC. (DA-NJ)
- 1260 WBUD NJ **Trenton** - 2/1 1753 - In nicely with ID and an anti-drug message sponsored by a local contractor. (JLB-NY)
- WNDE IN **Indianapolis** - 2/10 0657 - over Boston or Cleveland Disney station with Verizon ad, Fox Sports promo: "the exclusive home of Sunday and Monday night football, WNDE". (MKB-ON)
- 1270 WLBR PA **Lebanon** - 2/4 1739 - Very strong in local WHTK-1280 null saying "WLBR news time is 5:39" and then traffic for Harrisburg area. (JLB-NY)
- WCGC NC **Belmont** - 2/13 1928 - Bluegrass gospel. Good signal, but faded often. "AM 1270, WCGC" & "Carolina Christian Connection". (IEN*GA)
- 1280 WANS SC **Anderson** - 2/12 1600 - Religious programming, 10 over S9 with splatter from WJJC in Commerce, GA on 1270. "1280 AM, WANS, Anderson, South Carolina". (IEN-GA)
- 1330 WETZ WV **New Martinsville** - 1/25 2234 - Timeless classics format. Very good signal. Ad for Family Carpet. Then weather report from 1330 Timeless Classics WETZ. (RJ-NC)
- 1340 WSSC SC **Sumter** - 1/31 1802 - IDs "WSSC Sumter" (male voice) followed seconds later by "WSSC Sumter" (female voice). (RJ-NC)
- WADE NC **Wadesboro** - 2/3 0659 - "... before 7 o'clock, you're listening to WADE." (RJ-NC)
- 1350 WHWH NJ **Princeton** - 2/3 1800 - Heard briefly with ID jingle followed by news. (JLB-NY)
- 1360 WNNJ NJ **Newton** - 1/28 0957 - "Cranking up another huge block of oldies - Oldies 1360" followed by "Sister Goldenhair" and ID: "Oldies 1360 - WNNJ-AM, Newton." Very rare visitor was helped by 9-degree weather. Signal fair with hissing. (MC-NJ)
- WELP SC **Easley** - 2/12 1730 - Religious programming, 30 over S9 with fading and electrical noise. "Radio that changes the way you live, WELP, Easley, Greenville". (IEN-GA)
- 1400 WEST PA **Easton** - 2/9 1823 - "AM 1400 WEST" ID in the mess followed by local spots. (JLB-NY)
- 1460 WBRN MI **Big Rapids** - 2/9 0659 - fighting off nulled CJOY with computer news from Kim Komando, slogan "weekdays will never be the same...AM 1460 WBRN" into top of hour AP Network news. (MKB-ON)
- 1500 WGHT NJ **Pompton Lakes** - 1/24 1056 - "Poison Ivy" followed by "1500-GHT", then "Nothing Gonna Break My Stride". ID: "North Jersey Radio is 1500 WGHT - Pompton Lakes, Paterson, The Lakelands." Signal good to fair. This one starts to disappear when the weather warms up. (MC-NJ)
- 1550 WXOL OH **Delaware** - 2/5 0114 - a very quick WXOL ID in the crud. (RJ-NC)
- WMRE WV **Charles Town** - 2/7 0000 - In nicely proclaiming "You are listening to America's best music - WMRE 1550." Must have been still on day power. (JLB-NY)
- WIRV KY **Irvine** - 2/12 2200 - Oldies. Weak signal buried in the static that would fade often. "You're listening to the TriCity AM Network...1550 Irvine". (IEN-GA)
- 1700 KVNS TX **Brownsville** - 2/1 2030 - ID as KVNS. Very brief fade-in over WEUV. (DA-NJ)
- WJCC FL **Miami Springs** - 2/1 2101 - ID as "AM 1700 WJCC... Miami Beach, Ft. Lauderdale and the Bahamas, Planet 17". Then return to FF (Haitian?) programming. (DA-NJ)

International DX Digest

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

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

It ain't over 'til it's over. Just as transatlantic DX was improving, solar cycle 23 let us know it's still alive with visible aurora over the upper midwest. A good time to chase wobblers and Latin American DX.

Transatlantic DX

- 765 SWITZERLAND RSR Sottens FEB 18 0055 - Good; light English and French pop vocals, a man in French at the top of the hour with potential ID was wiped out by a burst of interference from adjacent 770 WABC, back to music by 0104. [Conti-NH]
- 783 MAURITANIA R.Mauritanie, Nouakchott FEB 18 0105 - Good; lively modern Arabic music parallel 4845, at 0115 still on the air with telephone talk hosted by a man and woman. Sign-off time has been variable lately, often later than 0100 listed in WRTH. [Conti-NH]
- 1098 SPAIN RNE synchros FEB 18 0405 - Good; man and woman in Spanish parallel a weaker but readable 855 kHz signal. [Conti-NH]
- 1152 SPAIN RNE synchros FEB 18 0410 - Poor; instrumental music parallel 1098 kHz, signals noted on 1107, 1116 and 1143 also from Spain. [Conti-NH]
- 1530 SAO TOME E PRINCIPE VOA Pinheira FEB 18 0258 - Poor; Yankee Doodle interval signal under WCKY null, slightly auroral conditions. [Conti-NH]
- 1575 KUWAIT R.Farda FEB 12 0120 - Good to excellent on new frequency, huge S9 signal; modern Middle Eastern music, announcements by a man and woman, continued strong at 0204 with Metallica "Nothing Else Matters," parallel 9585 kHz. Everyone in the mIRC #mwdx chat group ganged up on this after it was first noticed by Barry McLarnon in Ontario. [Conti-NH]

Pan-American DX

- 530 TURKS & CAICOS R.Vision Cristiana International, South Caicos FEB 12 0905 - Spanish language Christian jingles, Spanish female vocal/religious music; loud, signal mixed with Portuguese music. [Stromsted-MA]
- 535 GRENADA GBN St. George's FEB 12 0908 - Broadway musical song with lyrics, in and out of noise - weak. [Stromsted-MA]
- 550 CUBA R.Rebelde, multiple locations FEB 12 - Presumed; fast paced traditional Cuban island music, trumpets, drums, group singing. [Stromsted-MA]
- 555 ST KITTS & NEVIS ZIZ Radio, Basseterre FEB 12 0528 - BBC news. Good signal. [Stromsted-MA]
- 560 unID FEB 12 - Playing Argentine tangos, faded. [Stromsted-MA]
- 600 CUBA R.Rebelde, Urbano Noris FEB 11 0548 - In clear, moderately strong; parallel 610, 620, 710, 5025 SW (strong). [Stromsted-MA]
- 610 CUBA R.Rebelde, FEB 12 0548 - Mostly dominant, over domestics, parallel others. [Stromsted-MA]
- 620 CUBA R.Rebelde, multiple sites FEB 12 0548 - Over local stations, parallel other R.Rebelde outlets. [Stromsted-MA]
- 640 CUBA R.Progreso, Guanabacoa and Las Tunas FEB 12 - Synchro echos; Spanish programming, male announcer mentioned America Latina, other Latin signals under. [Stromsted-MA] FEB 12 0356 - Good over WFNC; talk in Spanish with noticeable echo, no echo on 890 parallel, so likely receiving both stations on this frequency. [Conti-NH]
- 670 CUBA R.Rebelde, Arroyo Arenas FEB 12 0548 - Parallel others, mixed with Chicago signal. [Stromsted-MA]
- 710 CUBA R.Rebelde, La Julia + others FEB 12 0548 - Big signal over WOR mostly, parallel to others, mostly Cuban music, vocals, male, female speakers. [Stromsted-MA]
- 750 VENEZUELA YVKS RCR Caracas FEB 12 0315 - Good; Informe RCR news over WSB with CBGY fading in and unID 747 het. [Conti-NH]
- 790 CUBA R.Reloy, Pinar del Rio FEB 12 0920 - Usual clock ticks, RR code, and news with male and female presenters, parallel 820, 870 and 1020. [Stromsted-MA]
- 820 CUBA R.Reloy, unknown location FEB 12 0920 - Usual clock ticks, RR code, and news. [Stromsted-MA]
- 860 VENEZUELA YVYE Enlace 860, Valle de la Pascua FEB 12 0030 - Fair; "Enlace Ocho Sesenta"

- IDs, tropical music. Recheck at 0230 found CJBC and *R.Relej* Cuba dominant. [Conti-NH]
- 870 CUBA *R.Relej*, Sancti Spiritus FEB 12 0920 - Usual clock ticks, RR code, and news. [Stromsted-MA]
- 942 unID FEB 13 0909 - Spanish speaking programming, suspect Latin signal but no off-frequency listing in WRTH. Any ideas? Signal clear but weak. [Stromsted-MA]
- 990 unID FEB 12 - Brazilian music, may be local? [Stromsted-MA] Perhaps WALE Greenville.
- 1020 CUBA *R.Relej*, unknown location FEB 12 0920 - Usual clock ticks, RR code, and news. [Stromsted-MA]
- 1130 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC *R.Cadena de Noticias*, Santiago FEB 13 0909 - Over/under second Latin signal, one or the other station off frequency (1129.98), not listening at ID times but several mentions of "Domíngo." In clear, with no evidence of WBBR; off the air? [Stromsted-MA]
- 1130 unID FEB 13 0909 - Second station heard seemed to have Mexican "feel" as with slower diction, Mexican music and religious references. One or the other station off frequency (1129.98), difficulty isolating as similar signal strength. WRTH lists several stations in Georgia with Mexican programming so may be one of these: WLBA or WMGA? [Stromsted-MA] WMGA listed as silent in the NRC *AM Radio Log*.
- 1180 CUBA *R.Rebelde*, Villa María FEB 12 0548 - Big signal, over WHAM, parallel others. [Stromsted-MA]
- 1570 MEXICO XERF *La Poderosa*, Cd. Acuña FEB 13 0926 - Assumed; Mexican music, dominant signal on channel. [Stromsted-MA]
- 1620 U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS WDHP Fredriksted, St Croix FEB 12 0507 - Recorded instrumentals, strings and percussion. Light jazz. Totally dominant signal, strongest station above 1600 kHz. + FEB 12 0937 - Island music, no announcements between songs. Loud! [Stromsted-MA]

Erik comments: South 1000-ft long wire used at typically 10 to 20 ft height. An auxiliary vertical used as the phasing element to provide 360 degree coverage. The phasing didn't work well this time so need to investigate. None of the stations heard benefited from nulling. This antenna moved from ~100 ft to ~500 ft away from ham transmitting antenna recently to improve isolation. Northeast and east long wire antennas inoperative temporarily. St. Croix on 1620 as loud as ever whenever monitoring it.

Transpacific DX

- 630 AUSTRALIA 4QN Townsville, QLD FEB 5 1706 - Tentative. Very poor; man with talkback program, phone number 1-800-800-Triple 2, talk to guest via phone, both men with Aussie accents. [Park-HI]
- 1575 THAILAND VOA Ayutthaya FEB 5 1648 - Very poor; woman with talk, mentioned "America, Washington"; another woman singing an R&B song; first woman with talk or news; then a man with announcement and instrumental techno music, and a second man saying "This program has come from..." but cut off by second announcement. "This is the Voice of America from Washington, DC signing off," interval signal and off at 1700. All parallel 7280 kHz. WRTH says this is the Bengali program. [Park-HI]

DXers wobble but they don't fall down

Mark Connelly seeks out Cuban wobblers

Here's a quick trip around the DX Tuners receivers looking for wobbly action on 870, 930, and 1100 kHz. Using this service saved me a lot of frequent flyer miles. You can draw your own conclusions, but it certainly looks like Cuba to me.

- 870 FEB 17 0330, 0355 - WWL over *R.Relej*. [Melbourne FL] FEB 17 0332 - WWL. [Maryland] FEB 17 0335 - WWL. [Arlington TX] FEB 17 0340 - WWL sports over/under English-language religion. [Illinois] FEB 17 0342 - Weak jumble. [Moosonee ON] FEB 17 0350 - Weak station jumble, HJSB probably one of them. [Caracas VEN] FEB 17 0400 - WLVP, WHCU, WWL jumbled. [Billerica MA]
- 930 FEB 17 0330 - Wobbler heard mixed with a Spanish music station. At 0355, wobbler under Spanish station. [Melbourne FL] FEB 17 0332 - Weak mix of stations. [Maryland] FEB 17 0335 - English talker weak, maybe Oklahoma, no wobbler. [Arlington TX] FEB 17 0340 - Weak jumble, no wobbler. [Illinois] FEB 17 0342 - WBEN strong with talk show, Ace and Kohl's adverts, ID. [Moosonee ON] FEB 17 0350 - Spanish talker mixed with station playing Venezuela anthem. [Caracas VEN] FEB 17 0400 - WBEN over WGIN and CFBC. [Billerica MA]

- 1100 FEB 17 0330 - Wobbler mixed with WTAM and a Spanish music station. At 0355, wobbler mixed with a Cuban talker. [Melbourne FL] FEB 17 0332 - WTAM in the clear. [Maryland] FEB 17 0335 - Wobbler weak, over unID stations. [Arlington TX] FEB 17 0340 - WTAM over Spanish talker and wobbler. [Illinois] FEB 17 0342 - WTAM and spur from a longwave aerobeacon. [Moosonee ON] FEB 17 0350 - Spanish religion, probably Colombia, with occasional wobbler and Spanish music way in background. [Caracas VEN] FEB 17 0400 - WTAM in the clear, no wobble. [Billerica MA]

Contributors

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 Bruce Conti, Nashua NH; R8B, MWDX-5, 15/23/15-m Ewe antennas east and south.
 Dale Park, Honolulu HI; Sangean ATS-818CS, Terk AM1000 loop. <DXFool@aol.com>
 Erik Stromsted W1ZBT, Pepperell MA; Yaesu 1000MP, Palomar Active Preselector, MFJ-1026 (modified for best band), terminated 1000-ft wire south, auxiliary vertical wire for improved phase-nulling. <microwaveadvances@charter.net>

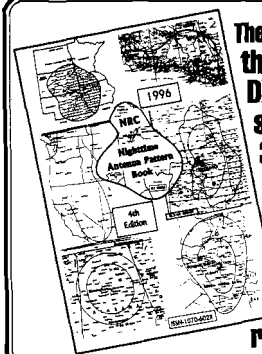
International News

UNITED ARAB EMIRITES: *Radio Asia* heard on 1557 kHz. Is this a move from 1575 or a new station? I had no trace of them on 1575. [Gert Nilsson, dxing.info via *DX Listening Digest*] Perhaps in anticipation of *R.Farda* signing on at 1575 kHz?

73 and Good DX!

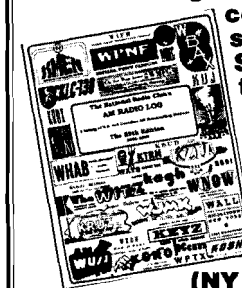
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Target DX

R. J. Edmunds

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Blue Bell, PA 19422-2052

DX'ing 'smart', with shared tips and requests by NRC members

Welcome to another edition of Target DX! This time, the focus is on Noise Problems and some suggestions for addressing them. Remember to send your questions or your suggestions for future topic-oriented columns to me either via the NRCDXAS listserv, by off-line email or by regular mail!

So you say you've got a noise problem? Doesn't pretty much everybody these days – at least among the BCB DX fraternity? In an age of a dizzying number of electrical devices, we find that more and more of them cause interference on the AM band. As we continue this discussion, we'll talk about many of them, as well as discuss some tips for finding and dealing with them.

The first step is to determine what kind of noise is present. Is it constant or intermittent? If it's intermittent, does it seem to have a regular pattern or is it random? Does the noise affect only a portion of the band? If you use a loop antenna, can the noise be nulled? Is the noise present only at night, or at twilight? These are the types of questions to answer first.

If the noise is intermittent, then something is creating it only sometimes, and the pattern or lack of it may give you hints. For instance anything with an electric thermostat, whether it's an aquarium heater, a clothes dryer, a stove, an electric blanket or any number of other items, you'll hear either a short popping, buzzing or crackling sound, followed by silence until the thermostat is called to action again. If you hear a very regular periodic buzz, it may be a motor that needs to be serviced, likely for bad brushes. This motor could be in a refrigerator or a washer or dryer, a furnace or a power tool. If the noise appears at different frequencies throughout the band, and is constant sometimes and absent other times, it may be TVI (television interference). A noise which is usually only present at night, during twilight or on very dark days can usually be traced to some sort of a light sensor for automatically turning on indoor or outdoor lights or other appliances.

So once we think that we have an idea as to what type of noise we may be dealing with, the next step is to try to locate it. There are two basic ways to do that, and each requires the use of a hand-held battery-powered AM radio. Of course, if you have a non-constant noise, you'll need to do this when the noise is in evidence. First, let's determine whether you have a situation where the noise is prevalent on the receiving gear in your shack, but not on the portable radio. This may be due to a problem in your receiver or in your antenna. If you're using a loop, it is easy enough to physically put the portable inside the field of the loop. If there now is noise on the portable, the noise is being picked up by the high gain of the loop antenna, and it is probably nullable to determine a direction for the external noise source. If that is the case, you'll need to follow the procedures further below for noises produced outside of the building you DX from.

If there is still no noise on the portable, then there is likely a problem with your receiver. The best bets are poor grounds, bad capacitors to ground or possibly bad tubes. In this case a complete check of the receiver is called for. If you're using an outdoor antenna, it is possible that the noise is being received by the antenna just as if it were a radio signal. In the case of very long and/or highly directional antennas, this is often a situation where the noise source may not be close enough for you to easily identify it.

Once the receiving system is eliminated as the source of the noise, take the portable radio with you to the electrical panel in your residence, turn it on and hold it near the panel. Then turn circuits off, and then back on again, one by one. As you turn each one off, listen for the noise to disappear and to reappear when you turn it on. If that occurs, you know that the problem is on that circuit. If that doesn't seem to work, repeat the process, except omit turning each circuit back on until you've turned them all off. This may determine that you have two noise-producers on two separate circuits. After all of this, it's very possible that either the noise remains even with all circuits off, or that it only disappears when the mains are off. If the latter, try to reposition the portable radio so that it's right next to the main power cable coming into the panel. If the noise reappears, or if it never disappeared, then it's probable that it's being transmitted along the power lines from an external source. If you've been able to isolate a specific circuit, and you know what rooms are on that line, refer to Chart I at the end of this article for probable noise generators.

If your investigations at the electrical panel don't turn up any leads, take the portable radio with you, leaving the circuits turned off, and locate places where other electricity-based services such as cable TV or telephone, enter the building. Place the portable radio near the wires for these services to

see if the noise becomes louder as you do so. If so, try to compare the loudness of the noise here as opposed to at the electrical panel to determine which is the more likely carrier of the noise. Then return to the electrical panel and turn the power back on to all circuits. Next take the portable radio again, and go outside see if you can identify any external sources for the noise. Check at nearby utility poles, if your electricity is furnished above ground. After securing permission to do so, take the portable and walk around any buildings on adjacent properties, trying to compare noise levels there against both each other and at your residence. If you find that one particular neighboring structure seems to have the loudest noise, you'll need to get permission to perform the same checks with the utilities that you did at home. In many cases where the noise is externally generated, it may be coming from a neighboring building.

Once you've located a particular area where the noise is originating, it's time to check for the specific source. This can also be done using the same portable radio, although it's often useful to think about a target list of the types of things that are most likely to cause electrical noises. For a preliminary list, refer to Chart I at the end of this text. Depending on what device is the culprit, you may have some options for correcting or at least reducing the noise problem. Unfortunately, even some sources of problems in your own living quarters may not be so easy to fix, and those which are external may be even harder, assuming that you're able to identify them at all.

Sometimes you can eliminate or reduce noise generated through the power lines by making sure that your receiver is on a separate circuit from any noise-producing devices. Another may be a noise-reducing line filter. In some cases, where the noise isn't generated by something which absolutely must be running while you're DX'ing, you can simply turn the noise source off. If your outdoor antenna is picking up noise radiated through the air, a noise-reducing antenna may be the answer. Perhaps even relocating an outdoor antenna to place it further away from a known noise source will be adequate.

If you have strong reason to suspect that the noise source is external, whether you believe that it is being generated by faulty power generating equipment or whether you believe that it is simply being radiated over the power lines, most electric utilities (as well as most telephone and cable TV companies) have people on their staff who specialize in investigating electrical noise complaints or problems, and you should make use of these persons where appropriate. A local amateur radio club may also have a member who has become an expert in tracking down noise problems.

If you have narrowed your focus down to a particular electrical device, you should be aware that although the device itself or the literature supplied with it may state that it is "FCC Type Accepted", this might not mean very much. Any item which may either cause or be susceptible to radio interference must meet FCC requirements. Generally speaking, the FCC requires that any such item not create interference above certain specified parameters, but very often the result is that some level of interference within some close proximity to the device in question is permissible. The intent is that your appliances don't interfere with your neighbor's radios and the reverse, although in some cases that may still be permissible. Remember that we are practitioners of a hobby most people have never heard of, and that government regulations aren't intended to necessarily protect against noise which prevents us from hearing distant stations nor are they intended to always protect against noises generated within our own residence from interfering with radios in that same residence.

In summary, here are a few added observations about noise and noise-reduction. Generally, a loop antenna will pick up less noise than a random wire antenna, a vertical antenna will usually pick up more noise than a horizontal one, and a directional outdoor antenna array will generally exhibit the same reception pattern for externally radiated noises as they do for radio signals. If you have multiple outdoor antennas, it may be possible to use a phasing unit to mix the signals from each to reduce specific noises, and if you do not, it may be worthwhile to investigate adding even a simple one just for that purpose. Also, some power line-transmitted noise can be eliminated or reduced through the use of a battery-powered receiver located as far as possible from any power lines.

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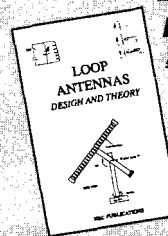
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Musings

of the Members

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

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

Here is the NRC column which brings out the excitement of all baseball card collectors (bet you don't have one from Dizzy Dean!). When sending your items along, please keep them DX- and radio-related. But you have to send them first, right? Here we go:

Ernest J. Wesolowski - 13312 Westwood lane - Omaha, NE 68144-3543

Hello NRC members! I have been a member of the NRC since January 1959. My paper-boy, Murry Mann had seen the antennas outside of my house, and he was the one who got me to join the club. I was very active back then and now have a total of 2363 stations logged and 2036 verified, all from Omaha. I have heard 49 states (no Alaska), 9 provinces (no PEI) and 32 countries. I am 64, single and retired from Western Electric/AT&T/Lucent as an electrician of 30 years. Also, I was host for 3 conventions and attended over 30 of them. I love to travel! And hope to see all this labor day in PA! 73s

Les Rayburn <les@highnoonfilm.com> (note: Les is both an NRC member and IRCA CPC chairperson -pls.

I completely agree with Paul Smith's recent comments on the NRC reflector. He cautioned DX'ers about complaining about DX tests that were conducted with short notice or limited publicity. In my viewpoint, all DX'ers need an attitude adjustment when it comes to our relationship with the stations. Two weeks ago, I attempted to schedule a DX test with a station on the West Coast, only to be told a horror story by the engineer. Another station in his group was cited by the FCC after a DX'er complained that they were "cheating" on their nighttime power. Even if the complain was valid, that DX'er affected the attitude of not only that station's staff, but also of other engineers and station managers within the group. All of whom had received memo's about the incident. I'm also aware that Clear Channel's legal department has questioned the entire practice of "DX Tests" because they fear complaints from other stations who might receive interference during the event. Lawyers always error on the side of caution, and if Clear Channel were to adopt a policy to not hold DX tests it would have a large impact on future testing. Such a step would almost certainly cause other legal departments to review their policies. Can you see where this going? In a perfect world, engineers would test with plenty of notice, testing for hours at a time, with the program material that we want, etc. They'd print up pretty QSL cards, and send them out quickly after the event. But we don't live in a perfect world. Many engineers have to manage maintenance on multiple stations. Most stations are automated at least to some extent. Ad revenue during the overnight hour is viewed as being important to the bottom line; and management certainly doesn't understand the need to lose revenue for a test. Fewer engineers are ham radio operators, or DX'ers. So they don't understand what all the fuss is about. In short, we are beggars. We need to approach stations with a humble and thankful attitude. Playing "cop" and complaining about less than perfect tests can only hurt us all. Allow me instead to suggest some positive actions that DX'ers can take: 1. Cultivate personal contacts with radio station engineers and management. Use those contacts to educate them about DXing...and why it's such a great hobby. Reach out to those contacts for DX tests. Please use the letters on my web site for guidance: <<http://www.highnoonfilm.com/amdx>> If possible, try to schedule the test a few weeks or more in advance. Let myself and Fred V. know, and we'll get the word out. 2. When asking for a test, take the extra steps to make it possible. Provide the station with test material. You can download a small program called "WinMorse" from my site as well. This makes it easy to generate CW ID's. Include the NRC sweep tones and burn them onto a CD. You can find lots of test material on my web site. Feel free to include it on the CD. Take that with you when you ask for the test. Offer to handle QSL chores. If you can't do this or don't want to. Let me know. I'll be happy to do anything to support these tests. 3. When a station tests, always drop them an e-mail or card thanking them for the test, even if you don't hear it. Many on the lists are great about this...and I know it helps. Look at the number of repeat tests we have. That is based on the station or it's staff having a positive experience. 4. If for some reason, you feel compelled to complain about a station that is "cheating"...I suggest you reconsider. If you still feel compelled, then contact the station that is "cheating", and leave a nice message stating that you think there might be a problem with their automation. Be nice. Don't expect the situation to change quickly. It may take days for your message to reach someone who will understand it. Longer still for an engineer to actually look

into the problem. If you insist on contacting the FCC or being rude, just identify yourself as a listener. Tell them that you're trying to hear polka music on a station three states away. Don't mention DXing, your radio club, etc. Do the rest of us that favor. Otherwise, we may all someday be nostalgic for the good ole days when stations transmitted Morse Code in the middle of night, just for some nut half a world away who was trying to hear them. When you think about it, it's amazing that anyone would agree to do us this great favor at all. 73

Ken Chatterton - 14563 Sand Place - Mannsville, NY 13661 - <krazyken@tccenet.net>

It has been some time since I have appeared in these pages. I think most of you know me as a member of the NRC's Board of Directors. In recent weeks several items have come up that perhaps should be clarified. In addition to *DX News*, I am including members of the DX Audio Service and the AM list at <<am@nrcdxas.org>>, an on-line list for DX tips, discussions, etc. From time to time we heard complaints that someone feels that the Club has ignored a suggestion or complaint that they have. The trouble is that however they have expressed that complaint, it was not brought to the attention of the Board of Directors. If you have a complaint, suggestion, or other comment you feel should be addressed it must be sent to the proper recipient. Look at the back page of *DX News*; the names and e-mail addresses of all the Board members are there and have been for some time. If you have a suggestion you want to offer it should go to the Club's Ombudsman, John Bowker. If you want to complain that should go to me, Ken Chatterton. Our names, snail mail, and e-mail addresses are right there on the back page. If you don't go to the right place your concerns likely won't be addressed. We have also become aware that some NRC members are putting forth a lot of bad-mouthing about the club. If you are doing your best to tear the club down, why do you remain a member? We also know that certain members are giving the club a bad name by filing protests to the FCC regarding stations they believe are using day power at night or some other similar violation. Acts such as this gives the NRC and the DX hobby a bad reputation. If we anger station management and engineers, the hobby will be seriously hurt. I know of one western station who has refused to do a test because an NRC member has harassed him. Our management style seems to be an irritant to some. Remember this style of management has kept the NRC afloat and in good financial condition for 70+ years and at a time many other clubs have folded. Many of you who get *DX News* are not on our e-mail amlist. We have found that a great many DX tests are coming up on such short notice that they can not be published in *DX News* so most don't know about them until too late. We have made arrangements for a post card Flash Alert service to get late test news to you. Only 3 of you have taken advantage of it. We can't change everything that 1 or 2 people want, but we can't make anybody happy if you don't tell the proper person your ideas, suggestions. Let us hear from you whether you are happy or unhappy. 73, Ken

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

Took a few days off to do a little catch up on some R&R and now back to the regular grind. I did a little preliminary work on getting the den set up here but still not 'on line'; it'll happen soon I'm sure. Look for convention info shortly; a couple of places I had talked with haven't been all that cooperative; things have really changed since the first convention I did in Delaware. More to come!

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

Flash Alert Postcard System

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



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 residents, please add sales tax.