

# DX News

*Serving DX'ers since 1933*



Volume 74, No. 3 - October 16, 2006 ISSN 0737-1659

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### Station Test Calendar

WODI	NJ	1230	Oct. 1 to ?	0000-0005
KEVA	WY	1240	Oct. 23	0200-0400
WWNH	NH	1340	Nov. 5	2200-0000

*From the Publisher ...* Things that drive publishers batty ... receiving wrong address updates, especially more than once ... receiving address updates too late to avoid a 75¢-per-address charge address update from the USPS ... not receiving address updates at all and having to suspend mailing DXN to members. Remember, send your new address to the publisher as soon as you know it; we'll change your address when you tell us to.

*From Dave Schmidt ...* "Former NRC member Charlie Slezaj passed away October 1st. He was a member of the club for a few years in the '80's and was our host for the tour of WDEL/WSTW at the first New Castle NRC Convention (he had the key to the promotions closet, opened it up and let those who were there raid it!) Charlie later became the CE at the station and was also CE at WXCY Harve de Grace, MD. He was 53."

*From the Tests Coordinator, Les Rayburn ...* "Spoke today with Fletcher Hubbard, who is the owner of WLLL 930khz in Lynchburg, VA. Very nice gentleman, who listened patiently as I explained about QSL card collecting. After a brief conversation, he has authorized me to verify correct reception reports from last April's DX Test, on behalf of the station. Please note that I will only verify correct reception reports from recordings, or detailed logs for the DX test period only. We cannot verify any other loggings of WLLL at any other time. Only reports that are judged to be correct and complete will receive verification. E-mail is strongly preferred for reports, though postal mail will also be accepted. Mail reports will only be verified with an included SASE. If you are submitting reports by e-mail, please submit an MP3 recording of the test and any log details. If submitting by mail, please send a CD recording (first choice), or cassette. If sending a cassette please "cue" the tape to the time of your best reception. I don't have time or patience to listen to an hour's

worth of your DX. (Ha, Ha) Send e-mail reports to: [les@highnoonfilm.com](mailto:les@highnoonfilm.com). Please put 'WLLL 930khz DX Test' in the subject line. Postal Reports with SASE to: Les Rayburn C/O High Noon Film - 100 Centerview Drive Suite 111 - Birmingham, AL 35216."

*DXChange ...* Jeff Lewis - 1028 W 41 Place Apt. #3 - Kansas City MO 64111-4090, <[Jeffersonervinlewis@hotmail.com](mailto:Jeffersonervinlewis@hotmail.com)> is offering a Sony ICF 2010 bought new in '02, in good condition with accessories, for \$50 + shipping.

*Unfilled positions ...* We're still in need of volunteers for the following positions, as described in detail in V73, #27, the June '06 DXN: A person to maintain the e-DXN site; one or more additional moderators for e-DXN; one or more persons to edit future NRC publications; one or more persons to scan or retype reprints currently in print; one or more persons to scan verie letters to be placed on the NRCDXAS web site; several persons to research and prepare a book in commemoration of the NRC's 75th anniversary; a "Confirmed DX'er" editor; a "DX Targets" editor; a technical column editor; a nationwide QSL coordinator (preferably a joint NRC/IRCA/WTFDA member); someone to type e-mail reports for members who don't have computers.

### DX Time Machine

#### *From the pages of DX News:*

50 years ago ... from the October 27, 1956 DXN: Don Reynolds, Altadena, CA reported hearing 8 Japanese stations between 0415 and 050 on 10/1, followed on 10/7 by VOA-Okinawa-1180, South Koreans HLKY-840 and HLKB-800, and 3 more JJ's, and then on 10/8 5 additional JJ stations, along with VOA-Phillipines-1140, KMTH-Midway-900, and, tentatively, BED22-Taiwan-660.

25 years ago ... from the October 26, 1981 DXN: Dan Bartek, Wahoo, NE reported reading in a local paper that the U. S. government planned to build a station called "Radio Marti" to broadcast to Cuba.

10 years ago ... from the October 21, 1996 DXN: John Bowker, Sun City Center, FL reported adding recordings of 281 new stations to his Travellog audio collection during a trip around the country.



# AM Switch

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

## CALL LETTER CHANGES

	<u>Old Call</u>			<u>New Call</u>
890	KTXV	TX	Frankston	KKBM*
890	KKBM	TX	Mabank	KTXV*
960	WPBI	FL	North Palm Beach	WSVU
1470	KEZZ	CO	Estes Park	KEPL
1690	NEW	ON	Toronto	CHTO



\* - if you'll remember from previous reports, these stations are owned by the same individual and the facilities are only about 60 miles distant. It is proposed that the Frankston license be surrendered at such time that the Mabank facility commences Program Test Authority actions. See Volume 73 - Issue 27.

## CPs ON THE AIR

1050	KSIS	MO	Sedalia - Coordinate correction to N38-43-52 W93-13-32.
1330	WFIN	OH	Findlay - Coordinate correction to N41-00-31 W83-38-07.
1380	WMJR	KY	Nicholasville - CP for the move here (ex: Winchester, Kentucky) with U1 5000/38 from a new transmitter site at N37-54-27 W84-28-42. [Note: the powers stipulated on the License to Cover are U1 38/5000!! I just wonder if . . . nah. They won't.]
1450	KIKR	TX	Beaumont - Coordinate correction to N30-03-51 W94-07-11.
1600	KMDO	KS	Fort Scott - CP for the relocation to a new transmitter site at N37-47-01 W94-42-00 and increase power levels to be U1 770/35 is on the air.

## ACTIONS

880	KHNR	HI	Honolulu - CP granted to move here (ex: 870) with U1 10000/10000.
1200	WAMB	TN	Nashville - CP granted for D1 50000/0 CH 3800. This supplants their previous CP for U2 50000/90 CH 3800, so they have relinquished the night-time authority.
1480	WPWC	VA	Dumfries-Triangle - Now on the air with U4 5000/500.
1570	WOKC	FL	Okeechobee - CP granted for U1 800/12 from a new 195' skirt-fed tower at N27-12-57 W80-48-42.
1640	KDIA	CA	Vallejo - CP granted for U2 10000/10000, increasing their night power.

## AMENDMENTS TO CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

1140	WRMQ	FL	Orlando - Licensed for D1 5000/0, WRMQ has a CP for U2 5000/1500 along with a CoL change to Goldenrod, Florida. This amendment requests U1 5000/8 back at Orlando.
1370	WGHC	GA	Clayton - Licensed for D1 2500/0, WGHC has a CP for U1 3000/0 on 870 kHz and to change their City-of-License (CoL) to Mount Holly, North Carolina. This amendment requests D1 6000/0 CH 6000 on 870 at Mount Holly.

## APPLICATIONS

1140	NEW	RI	Greenville - Applies for U4 27000/1200 from 6 towers at N41-53-29 W71-37-21.
1230	KXO	CA	El Centro - Applies to build a new, taller tower at N32-48-24 W115-32-44, replacing their structure which collapsed in 2004. They have been operating under a Special Temporary Authority (STA) using a horizontal wire.
1360	WWWJ	VA	Galax - Applies for U4 2200/1400 CH 2200 on 720 kHz and to change their CoL to Portsmouth, Virginia.
1480	WGVU	MI	Kentwood - Coordinate correction to N42-50-36 W85-37-07.
1590	KMOZ	MO	Rolla - Coordinate correction to N37-56-40 W91-48-42.

## AMENDMENTS TO APPLICATIONS

960	KOVO	UT	Provo - Licensed for U2 5000/1000, KOVO applied for U7 50000/940 CH
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50000. This amendment requests U4 50000/940.

- 1110 WOMN LA **Franklinton** - Licensed for D1 1000/0, WOMN applied for U7 50000/250 CH 20000 on 1100 kHz along with a COL change to Chalmette, Louisiana. This amendment requests U4 50000/30 back at Franklinton.
- 1400 NEW TX **Anthony** - Initial application was for U1 250/250. This amendment requests U1 1000/1000. Anthony is a suburb of El Paso.
- 1480 WSPY IL **Geneva** - Licensed for U4 1000/500, WSPY applied for U4 500/250 with a change in CoL to Millbrook, Illinois. This amendment requests U4 400/250.
- 1570 KPYK TX **Terrell** - Licensed for U1 250/6, KPYK applied for U1 270/42 from a new transmitter site. This amendment scales the night power back to their original level. So, their new application is for U1 270/6 from that new site.
- 1590 KEAS TX **Eastland** - Licensed for D1 500/0, KEAS applied for D1 1000/0 and to change their CoL to Carlsbad, Texas. This amendment requests D1 1200/0 at Carlsbad.

#### APPLICATIONS DISMISSED

- 1170 WKFL FL **Bushnell** - Application was for D4 10000/0 CH 5000 with a change in CoL to Curlew, Florida.
- 1440 NEW VA **Hamilton** - Application was for U4 1000/5000.

#### LICENSE RENEWALS GRANTED

- |           |    |             |           |    |               |
|-----------|----|-------------|-----------|----|---------------|
| 930 KHJ   | CA | Los Angeles | 1240 WBUR | MA | West Yarmouth |
| 1240 KWLC | IA | Decorah     | 1480 KVNR | CA | Santa Ana     |

#### NEWS TO YOUSE

- 580 CKXR BC **Salmon Arm** - **Now silent** as the simulcast period with new FM station is over.
- 860 CBRB AB **Banff** - **Now silent** as the simulcast period with new FM station is over.
- 940 WCND KY **Shelbyville** - Licensed for D1 250/0, WCND submitted an Auction 84 application to move to 650 kHz and change their CoL to Ruckersville, Virginia with D1 10000/0 CH 5000. They then submitted an amendment for U1 250/10 back at Shelbyville on 650, adding the night operation. That amendment has been deleted from the FCC's database, leaving the Ruckersville application.
- 1080 WOAP MI **Owosso** - Applies to extend their STA to remain silent through March 2007 due to financial difficulties.
- 1190 KREB AR **Bentonville-Bella Vista** - **CP to increase their power to become D1 5000/0 CH 2500 at the adjusted coordinates of N36-23-18 W94-11-34 is on the air.** [Add the CH power, correcting the item from last issue.]
- 1270 WSPR MA **Springfield** - WSPR had a CP to build an auxiliary facility with U1 1000/350 on a common tower with WACM (below). This has been deleted from the FCC's database, possibly because the three-year window has expired. But then, maybe the facility is built and the FCC just took it off their books.
- 1490 WACM MA **West Springfield** - WACM had a CP to build an auxiliary facility with U1 1000/1000. This has been deleted from the FCC's database, possibly because the three-year window has expired.

#### HEAR AND THAR

- Another fairly interesting week at the FCC and CRTC.
- Fines: **WJAS-1320 Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania** has been fined \$3000 "for willfully and repeatedly violating Section 17.4(a) of the Commission's Rules by failing to register each of its antenna structures used in the operation of the station; **KBSZ-1250 Wickenburg, Arizona** has been fined \$8000 for failure to maintain their Emergency Alert System equipment.
- Thanks to **Shawn Axelrod, Perry Crabill, Bill Dvorak, and Wayne Heinen** (the usual cast).

## Flash Alert Postcard System

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



# Domestic DX Digest

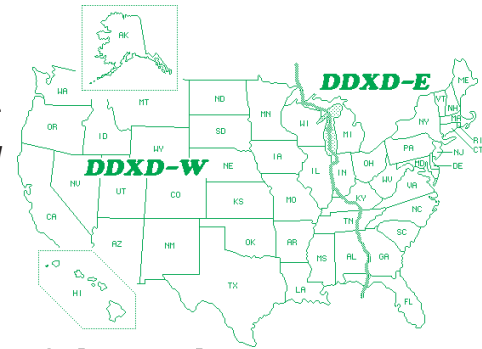
West: **Bill Dvorak** westlogs@aol.com

501 Algoma St. - Madison, WI 53704-4812

East: **Mike Brooker** aum108@idirect.com

99 Wychcrest Ave - Toronto, Ontario M6G 3X8 CANADA

(Division line is  
between East and  
Central time zones)



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

## DDXD-West

FROM THE VAST WESTLAND

- \* **Greg Harris** sends along this note, regarding a recent antenna experiment: "Years ago I read in an old *Popular Electronics* (when it was good) about how to make a hula hoop loop. Got a 99¢ hula hoop, insulated #14 wire and some coax and made me one. Hung it in the "shack" window (advantage: signals need not penetrate walls). Will be using it more but early results are very encouraging." If you are interested in what Greg was hearing, I have marked his loggings while using this antenna with an [hh].
- \* Lots of good stuff this week, including results of the first DX test of the season. Enjoy! 73 Bill

### Reporters

- GH-IL** **Greg Harris, Park Forest.** Icom R75 with Quantum Loop or Homebrew Hula Hoop Loop [hh]; or DX350 / internal ferrite bar antenna.
- JC-TX** **John Callarman, Krum.** Station news.
- 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.
- NK-IL** **Neil Kazaross, Barrington.** Sony SW30.
- REW-HI** **Richard E. Wood, Keauu.** Icom R75, Yaesu FRG-100, 350 foot longwire to NE, 175 foot longwire to NNE.
- SP-WI** **Sheryl Paszkiewicz, Manitowoc.** NRD-515, AOR LA350 loop.
- WH-CO** **Wayne Heinen, Aurora.** Drake R8B, N/S Flag, E/W Flag, Modified 4 foot NRC Altazimuth loop, 15 foot vertical whip, Dual TG-1 Termination Gizmo w/2 BUF-F amplifiers, Mini-DXP5, DX Engineering RPA-1.
- Ed.-WI** **Your editor, Madison.** Drake R8B, Quantum QX Pro loop.

### Station News

- 910 **KXEB TX Frisco.** Has dropped Air America, replacing it with EWTN. Calls remain KXEB "Radio for Your Soul, a service of Guadeloupe Radio Network, Catholic Radio for North Texas." (JC-TX)

### DX Tests

- 1360 **WNJC+ NJ Washington Township. 10/1 0002.** DX test. Poor to fair, with Morse IDs and sweep tones and very little dead air. New! (Ed.-WI)
- 1360 **WNJC+ NJ Washington Township. 10/1 0057.** Easy here with sweeps and code and sounds like a phone off the hook. Unneeded as I've had them a couple times on regular schedule in Barrington and also a few times on regular schedule and SSS from my easterly enhanced BOG site in Grafton, Wisconsin. (NK-IL)
- 1360 **WNJC+ NJ Washington Township. 10/1 0223.** Poor with code, sweep tones and "off the hook" phone patch. NEW! Only the sixth from New Jersey. (JJR-WI)
- 1360 **WNJC+ NJ Washington Township. 10/1 0315.** DX Test. Various NRC sweep tones interspersed with Morse "DE WNJC" (3 times) at five to seven words per minute Weak QRM from WTAQ. New. [hh] (GH-IL)

### Regular DX Loggings (times in ELT)

- 550 **KFYR ND Bismarck. 10/1 0808.** Weather, with current North Dakota temperatures; call ID, "K-Fire" slogan, then an oldies song. Good, mixing with KFYI. (JW-CO)
- 550 **WDUN GA Gainesville. 10/2 0551.** "From WDUN 550 and (missed) 1240" and "....here on WDUN" IDs by male announcer. Peaked strong, then faded under KTRS and QRN. New. [hh] (GH-IL) (WDUN and WGGA 1240 Gainesville are both

owned by the same company. WDUN is newstalk and WGGGA sports. Evidently they also do some joint programming or cross-promoting. **Ed.-WI)**

- 550 **KUZZ CA Bakersfield. 10/5 0852.** Local spots, PDT time checks, area news, weather and traffic; frequent call letter IDs; at 0858 "KUZZ AM and FM, Bakersfield's News Leader." Station faded at this point, but I believe they went into C&W music after the ID. A needed call change here, last heard as KCWR eons ago. **(JW-CO)**
- 550 **KOAC OR Corvallis. 10/5 0859.** Female announcer with list of seven area NPR affiliates (6 FM and 1 AM); NPR news at 0900. Barely readable through the jumble. Not often heard here. **(JW-CO)**
- 580 **WGAC GA Augusta. 10/5 0638.** "On WGAC it's 6:38" by a female announcer and other live IDs and area news. Good signal, briefly overrode WILL. New. [hh] **(GH-IL)**
- 660 **WBHR MN Sauk Rapids. 9/27 2025.** Brewers' game, ID. New. **(SP-WI)**
- 680 **KNBR CA San Francisco. 9/21 0048.** "Sportsphone 680 with Damon Bruce on KNBR 6-80." Very good. **(REW-HI)**
- 690 **KSTL MO Saint Louis. 9/30 2000.** Religious programming and ID as part of a website promo: "Listen at kstl.com." Overrode WJOX. [hh] **(GH-IL)**
- 740 **KTRH TX Houston. 9/25 0022.** Ad for TexasOne Community Credit Union, texasoneccu.com. At 0023 ID "Newsradio 7-40 KTRH," sports talk, call from Austin on baseball. Very good, alone on channel. **(REW-HI)**
- 920 **KVEL UT Vernal. 10/4 0755.** "Fox Sports Radio KVEL" followed by local ad with local phone number. High QRN. New. **(GH-IL)**
- 930 **CJCA AB Edmonton. 9/22 0130.** Southern Gospel songs. Very good. **(REW-HI)**
- 940 **WNRG VA Grundy. 10/4 2106.** "This is (unreadable) for WNRG" and call IDs by a male announcer, then Gospel vocal music. Weak, much QRM and static. New. [hh] **(GH-IL)**
- 1070 **KILR IA Estherville. 10/3 0718.** Local ad, then "Here's your KILR weather forecast..." sponsored by Young's Care Center in Armstrong; soon faded. Briefly fair under KNX before fading. Rare here. **(JW-CO)**
- 1090 **KVOP TX Plainview. 10/3 0711.** Water conservation PSA, then ID as "News, talk, sports, and ag on the Voice of the Panhandle... KVOP, the Mighty Ten Ninety" and into "Agriculture Today." Good signal in null of local KMXA. **(JW-CO)**
- 1230 **KTRF MN Thief River Falls. 9/29 0259.** Promo for weather on the station's website; simple legal ID at 0259:55. Rough in QRM. **(JW-CO)**
- 1260 **KBLY ID Idaho Falls. 9/29 0959.** Legal ID at 0959:50 "This is east Idaho's talk station, NewsTalk 690 KBLI Blackfoot-Pocatello and 1260 KBLY Idaho Falls"; ABC news was next at 1000. Fair, mixing with others. A needed call change here, ex-KSSL. **(JW-CO)**
- 1270 **KIML WY Gillette. 9/28 0000.** "News, sports, weather and opinions; NewsTalk KIML, the information leader in Wyoming for over 50 years," to Fox news. **(WH-CO)**
- 1320 **WBRT KY Bardstown. 9/29 2041.** Mostly poor but fair for short periods until complete fade-out. High school football, teams unclear. First half just ending with the score 28(?) - 6. Call letter IDs and Bardstown mentions in halftime break. New! **(Ed.-WI)**
- 1350 **WKCU MS Corinth. 10/2 2105.** "AM 1350 WKCU" twice by a female announcer. Weak under KRNT. New. [hh] **(GH-IL)**
- 1350 **KTIK ID Nampa. 10/3 2200.** Brief KTIK ID surfaced on ToH tape. Last heard in 2003. **(WH-CO)**
- 1350 **KDIO MN Ortonville. 10/4 2300.** "You're listening to KDIO radio 1350. KDIO radio Ortonville, Minnesota" to C&W. **(WH-CO)**
- 1360 **KAHS KS El Dorado. 10/2 2302.** Ending Christian music. "You're listening to the best Christian talk radio around, 1360 AM KAHS El Dorado, Kansas." New for me! **(WH-CO)**
- 1420 **KOTK NE Omaha. 9/29 0159.** Legal ID at 0159:50 by a male voice: "KOTK Omaha, where your opinion counts." News followed at ToH—sounded like local news, but not sure due to QRM. Faded for a few minutes, then heard again at 0206 going into Sporting News Radio. **(JW-CO)**
- 1470 **KYUU KS Liberal. 10/4 2000.** "KYUU Liberal" in accented EE, "AM 1470" in SS, mixing with KKTY. Fair. **(WH-CO)**

- 1480 KLMS NE Lincoln. 9/30 0200. "KLMS, Lincoln's only full time sports station, 1480 ESPN" to ESPN programming. (WH-CO)
- 1480 KNIT TX Dallas. 9/30 0200. Out of Gospel music with "1480 KNIT Dallas-Ft Worth. Gospel 1480 KNIT," to SRN news. (WH-CO)
- 1480 KOAM KS Wichita. 9/30 0300. Radio Disney Programming; ID "AM 1480 KOAM Wichita, Radio Disney." (WH-CO)
- 1510 KLLB UT West Jordan. 9/29 2147. Ending UC gospel music. "KLLB West Jordan-Ogden-Provo" ID, and off the air. KYOL on STA was easier to phase (see "Station news," DDXD-W #74-2. Ed.-WI). Needed Call Change. (WH-CO)
- 1510 KGA WA Spokane. 9/29 2200. Michael Savage talk. "The Big Talker KGAAM 1510 Spokane-Coeur d'Alene" to CBS News, with KYOL phased. Rarely heard, but easier with KYOL on STA. (WH-CO)
- 1520 KOKC OK Oklahoma City. 9/22 0000. ID "Talk Radio 15-20 KOKC. 15-20 KOKC, the station that has Laura Ingraham and Paul Harvey. The news starts now on KOKC Oklahoma City." Into ABC news. Very good, traces of an SS and KVTA CA. (REW-HI)
- 1580 ONOshawa CKDO. 10/2 2015. Jingle sung by females "CKDO" and other IDs. Good signal. First time heard on its new frequency. (GH-IL)
- 1600 KUBA CA Yuba City. 9/22 2353. "Thanks for listening to KUBA 1600 AM," into oldies. At 2256 ID "The classic hits of the '50s and '60s KUBA," into song "Tutti Fruiti." Very good. (REW-HI)

## DDXD-East

### REPORTERS

- BC-NH Bruce Conti, Nashua (and Loco the DX cat) - R8B, MWDX-5, 50 x 75-ft terminated broadband loops east and south.
- IEN-GA Ira Elbert New, III, Watkinsville - Drake R8B 135' N/S Wire, Quantum QX loop v2.0 and Quantum phaser
- MKB-ON Mike Brooker, Toronto - Grundig YB-400PE, Panasonic RF-2200.

STATION NEWS, courtesy of Dale Park, Honolulu, HI

- 970 WFLA FL Tampa - Adds ABC's Sean Hannity and Mark Levin (both on tape) 9/27, per Radio and Record's Radio Monitor. Station slogan is "Tampa's Talk Monster." Hannity formerly was on WWBA-1040.
- 1400 WHMP MA Northampton - Adds "Stephanie Miller Show" per programme 9/18, relayed over 1600 WHNP-MA and 1250 WHMQ-MA.

### DX TESTS

- 1230 WODI VA Brookneal - 10/01 0000 - DX Test with sweeps, beeps and Morse Code cutting through the mix. Gone at 0005. (IEN-GA)
- 1340 WWNH NH Madbury - 10/01 0106 - DX Test with Morse Code cutting through the mix in the null of WGAU in Athens, GA. (IEN-GA)
- 1360 WNJC NJ Vineland - 10/01 0005 - DX Test with sweeps, beeps and Morse Code above a steady tone and WSAI in Cincinnati, OH. Continuing at 0030. (IEN-GA)
- 1580 CKDO ON Oshawa - 10/5 2135 - Fair/good, splatter from 1570 CFAV, later interference from unID Spanish; 60th anniversary "DXers night" program with Morse code IDs, Saul Chernos in-studio and telephone talk. Many e-mails and phone calls from NRC members. *But not from me. I was watching the baseball playoffs!* Mike (BC-NH)

### LOGGINGS

- 940 WNRG VA Grundy - 10/5 2100 - Good; gospel vocal, "You're listening to Solid Gospel WNRG, 940 on your AM dial, Grundy, Virginia," into SRN news. (BC-NH)
- 950 WCLB WI Sheboygan - 10/6 0700 - over WWJ with Comp USA ad, top of hour ID as "Sheboygan's ESPN radio 950, WCLB Sheboygan" into ESPN sports report, leading off with Mets v. Dodgers playoff series. (MKB-ON)
- 960 WERC AL Birmingham - 10/6 0703 - over CFFX groundwave with local news about strike at Gadsden Goodyear plant, slogan "News radio 960 WERC...when news breaks out we break in". (MKB-ON)



- 1370 WRWD NY Ellenville – 10/2 0731 – over WSPD/WVLY mix with local weather, PSA for Orange County United Way, “WRWD news time is 7:32” into local news. (MKB-ON)
- 1470 WEMM WV Huntington – 10/6 1923 – probably on day power with Chesapeake v. Coal Grove high school football pre-game show, ID as “follow your Chesapeake Panthers all season long on 1470 WEMM”. (MKB-ON)

### NON-ARCANE ABBREVIATIONS USED IN DDXD

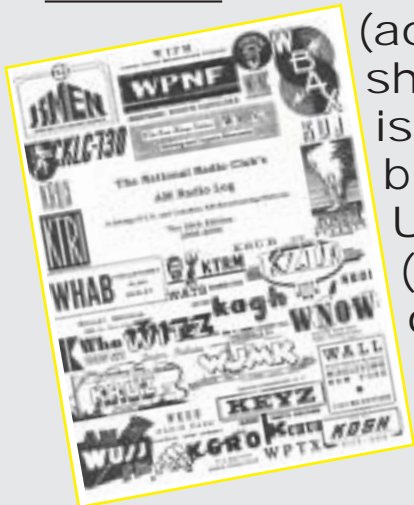
//:parallel to :00:on the hour AC:Adult contemporary AP:Associated Press BBD:big band C&W:country & western CCR:contemporary Christian radio CHR:contemporary hit radio CID:code ID CL:call letter EZL:easy listening EE:English FF:French GOS:gospel LSR:local sunrise LSS:local sunset NFL: National Football League NBA:National Basketball Association NHL:National Hockey League NPR:National Public Radio OC:open carrier PSRA:pre-sunrise authority PSSA:post-sunset authority QRM:man-made interference (power lines, etc) QRN:natural interference (lightning, etc) QTH:location PRI:Public Radio International REL:religious ROK:rock 'n' roll RS:regular schedule \$:stereo SID:singing ID SRS:sunrise skip SS:Spanish SSB:Star Spangled Banner SSS:sunset skip TC:time check TT:test tones UC:urban contemporary UPI:United Press International VID:voice ID

## Not sure about renewing?

Consider these benefits of a membership in the National Radio Club: 720+ pages per year of varied and comprehensive DX and radio information in *DXNews*... reduced prices for publications... responsive editors... and the friendliest bunch of DX'ers in the world! Why not send that renewal check to P. O. Box 5711 - Topeka, KS 66605-1427 today!

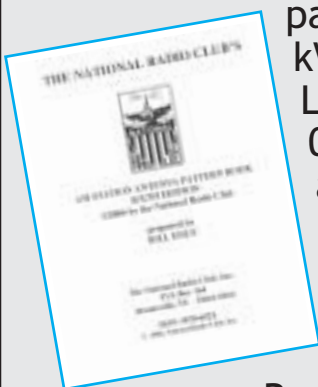
## NRC AM Radio Log, 27th Edition

Orders are now being accepted via USPS mail or via PayPal (access [www.nrcdxas.org](http://www.nrcdxas.org)), and orders will be shipped after September 20. The **NRC AM Radio Log** is unbound and three-hole punched for standard binders. \$19.95 to U. S. NRC members; \$25.95 to U. S. non-members; to Canadian members, \$23.00 (\$27.95 to non-members). Airmail to all outside of USA/Canada: \$29.95. Order from: NRC Publications - P.O. Box 473251, Aurora CO - 80047-3251. (CO residents, please add 3.5% sales tax.)



## Announcing... **The NRC AM Antenna Pattern Book**

The all-new Pattern Book now includes daytime and “Graveyard” frequency patterns for the first time. For those stations which operate with 50 kW (and higher in Mexico) non-directional (designated U1 in the AM Log), the day ‘pattern’ is shown to approximately the predicted 0.5 mV 1M coverage limits, while the night pattern is illustrated approximately 1.5 times larger. Stations in Alaska and Hawaii are listed on separate pages at the end of the book. The basic list of U.S. and Canadian stations comes from the 26th Edition of the National Radio Club’s AM Radio Log. Mexican stations in the states bordering the United States plus those stations elsewhere which are easily heard in the U.S. and Canada are also included. All data is up-to-date as of November 1, 2005. Prices: \$16.95 to USA/Canada NRC members, \$22.95 USA non-members, \$25.95, Canada non-members/all overseas orders. Order from NRC Publications - P.O. Box 473251, Aurora CO - 80047-3251. (CO residents, please add 3.5% sales tax.)



# 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.*

Roland Sandgren of Finland was one of many DXers heard calling in during the October 5 "DXer Night" special program on 1580 CKDO Oshawa. DXer Saul Chernos was the in-studio special guest, with e-mails and phone calls from a number of NRC members aired. It was part of the CKDO 60th anniversary celebration. Congratulations CKDO!



## Transatlantic DX

- 171 **MOROCCO**<sup>oo</sup> *Medi-1*, Nador (35°03'N 02°55'W) OCT 1 0337 - Very good with Moroccan music, male vocals. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 594 **MOROCCO**<sup>oo</sup> *RTM A*, Oujda (34°40'N 01°51'W) OCT 2 0310 - Fair over likely Portugal with a man in Arabic and chanting (not parallel to 1521 Saudi Arabia.) This frequency a nightly mix but the Portugal station usually is best earlier. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 720 **PORTUGAL** *RDP 1* synchros OCT 4 0220 - Under WGN and very clear, man in Portuguese which I first thought was Brazil until I heard an RDP mention on the half hour. Besides, Spain and Morocco signals were all around it and at fairly high levels. Portugal used to be so easy! [Dangerfield-PA] I wouldn't necessarily describe any transatlantic signal on a domestic 10 kHz channel as easy. Nice catch!
- 756 **GERMANY** *Deutschlandfunk*, Braunschweig & Ravensburg OCT 5 2325 - Good; a Mediterranean vocal featuring ud-like strings, then a woman in German and jazz vocal, parallel 6190 kHz. I thought it was something new before the German gave its identity away. [Conti-NH]
- 765 **SWITZERLAND** *RSR Option Musique*, Sottens (46°39'N 06°44'E) OCT 5 2320 - Excellent; contemporary French vocal. [Conti-NH]
- 819 **EGYPT** *ERTU* Batra (31°09'N 31°27'E) SEP 29 0356 - Good, with typical Egyptian music: male soloist, chorus and orchestra. This one once was a regular but gets through quite well with its high power. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1017 **TURKEY**<sup>oo</sup> *TRT* Mundanya (40°21'N 28°41'E) OCT 4 0020 - Fair with male singer and typical Turkish music. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1044 **MOROCCO** *RTM A/C*, Sebaâ-Aioun (33°54'N 05°23'W) OCT 5 2344 - Big signal; Berber music with female vocals. [Dangerfield-PA] OCT 5 2348 - Good, over *SER* Spain; Koranic recitations, 0000 anthem and off. [Conti-NH]
- 1053 **UNITED KINGDOM** *TalkSport* synchros OCT 6 0512 - Talk with loud growl from off-frequency stations on both sides of nominal. This late hour would point to Spain or UK synchros as the leading suspects responsible for the interference. [Conti-NH]
- 1062 **DENMARK** *Danmarks Radio*, Kalundborg (55°40'N 11°04'E) OCT 6 0515 - Excellent; telephone talk in Danish. [Conti-NH]
- 1089 **UNITED KINGDOM** *TalkSport* synchros OCT 6 0603 - Fair in WBAL splatter; *TalkSport* ID and "Good morning, I'm..." into news. [Conti-NH]
- 1125 **CROATIA**<sup>oo</sup> *Glas Hrvatske*, Deanovec (45°42'N 16°29'E) OCT 4 0030 - Fair and parallel to local-like 1134 with Croatian pop vocals. This station serves Zagreb and usually comes in well for its lower power. [Dangerfield-PA]
- 1206 **FRANCE** *France Info*, Bordeaux (44°57'N 00°11'W) OCT 6 0510 - Good; news in French. [Conti-NH]
- 1377 **FRANCE** *France Info*, Lille (50°31'N 02°59'E) SEP 30 0051 - Good with male pop vocal and parallel to other Info frequencies, and tonight this one was even better than 1557 usually dominant here. [Dangerfield-PA] OCT 6 0554 - Good; man and woman in French parallel second best 945 kHz while 1206 wasn't coming in and 1557 was only a het. [Conti-NH]
- 1422 **GERMANY** *Deutschlandfunk*, Heusweiler (49°21'N 06°55'E) OCT 5 2303 - Unusually strong at this time with a woman in German parallel 6190 kHz. [Conti-NH]
- 1503 **IRAN** *IRIB Sarasary*, Bushehr (28°58'N 50°51'E) SEP 30 0209 - Fair with Iranian music and chanting. [Dangerfield-PA] OCT 5 2253 - Strong s9 signal with low modulation; Middle Eastern vocals and Koran. [Conti-NH]
- 1521 **SAUDI ARABIA** *BSKSA* Duba (27°20'N 35°45'E) OCT 5 2237 - Excellent; Middle Eastern vocal with heavy percussion, then telephone talk followed by ud and what sounded like a dramatic reading, parallel 9555 and 9870 kHz. [Conti-NH]
- 1575 **UNITED ARAB EMIRATES** *R.Farda*, Al Dhabiya (24°11'N 54°14'E) SEP 29 0204 - Good; female singer, parallel to 9865 kHz. [Dangerfield-PA] OCT 5 2230 - Good; woman and man



with news in Farsi, *R.Farda* IDs, urban contemporary and Middle Eastern music. [Conti-NH]

#### Pan-American DX

- 620 **MEXICO** XESS *ESPN Deportes*, Ensenada BCN (32°29'N 117°01'W) SEP 25 0610 - Live sports event, "ESPN Deportes... Radio Deportes... la copa." Good, over my weak local KIPA. [Wood-HI]
- 810 **MEXICO** XEFW *R.Estrella*, Tampico (22°13'N 97°51'W) SEP 21 0445 - "En Radio Estrella 810 AM están escuchando Panorama de Noticias." News of Consejo Nacional de Elecciones. 0450 health tips. The new IRCA Mexican Log shows a night power of 1 kW but I strongly believe it runs 50 kW nights, likewise 1510 XEQI and 1600 XEPE. [Wood-HI]
- 1100 **MEXICO** XEBAC *R.Asunción*, Bahía Asunción (27°08'N 114°19'W) SEP 25 0500 - Rancheras, promo, ID, "XEBAC Radio Asunción, Baja California." Good, over/under KFAX. [Wood-HI]
- 1620 **US VIRGIN ISLANDS** WDHP Frederiksted, St.Croix (17°43'N 64°53'W) SEP 25 0600 - ID by a woman with a U.S. mainland, not West Indian, accent: "This is WDHP Frederiksted, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, 1620 kilohertz, simulcasting with WRRR 1290 kilohertz Frederiksted on the... Radio Network," into middle of the road music. First time noted without BBC World Service. May have dropped BBC. If so, it would be a shame because BBC was interesting and very easy to identify. Good, some KSMH. [Wood-HI]

#### Contributors

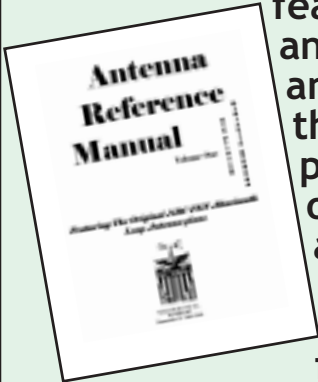
Bruce Conti, Nashua NH; R8B, MWDX-5, 15 x 23-m terminated corner-fed broadband loops east and south.

Ben Dangerfield, Wallingford PA; R8A, DXP-3A phaser, four slopers, Kiwa loop backup.

Richard Wood, Keaau HI; Icom R75, Yaesu FRG-100, long wires 350-ft northeast and 175-ft north/northeast.

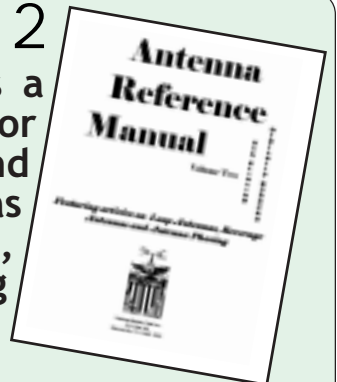
## Antenna Reference Manual, Volume 1

**8th Printing Digitally Enhanced and Updated** This completely-revised book features the plans for the original NRC 4' FET Altazimuth loop antenna. Completely revamped with digitally enhanced drawings and updated material sources, it also contains other articles on the subject of antennas for medium wave DX'ers, most originally published between 1969 and 1974 in *DX News*. It includes articles on air-core and ferrite core loops, antenna tuners for longwire antennas, and antenna couplers. This is the original book which has been available for over 20 years. \$8.95 to NRC members (\$11.95, non-members). 8 1/2" X 11" bound book format. Order from NRC Publications - P.O. Box 473251, Aurora CO - 80047-3251. (CO residents, please add 3.5% sales tax.)



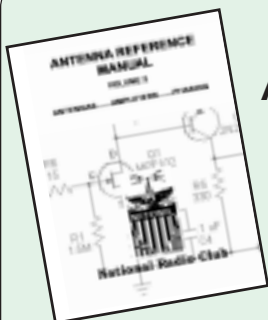
## Antenna Reference Manual, Volume 2

**8th Printing Digitally Enhanced and Updated** This book is a compilation of numerous articles on the subject of antennas for medium wave DX'ers, originally published between 1974 and 1981 in *DX News*. Some articles were formerly available as reprints. Includes articles on air-core and ferrite core loops, antenna tuners for longwire and Beverage antennas, and phasing units for use with Beverage antennas and longwires. 8 1/2" X 11" bound book format. Price: \$8.95 to NRC members; \$11.95 to non-members. Order from NRC Publications - P.O. Box 473251, Aurora CO - 80047-3251. (CO residents, please add 3.5% sales tax.)



## Antenna Reference Manual, Volume 3

A compilation of 17 articles on antennas, phasing impedance matching, and RF amplification for medium wave DX'ers, some of the articles were published in *DX News* between 1999 and 2004. 8 1/2" X 11" bound book format. NRC member price: \$11.95; non-member price \$16.95; overseas customers, please contact us for exact price. Order from NRC Publications - P.O. Box 473251, Aurora CO - 80047-3251. (CO residents, please add 3.5%



sales tax.)

# *The National Radio Club and the DX Audio Service AKRON 2006 - "Getting to Know You"*

*by John R. Malicky*

It is the 'rubber game' or the third convention of meetings in the upper midwest/northeast U.S., Batavia, NY 2004, Kulpsville, PA 2005, and here in northeast Ohio, Akron 2006! With a musical and personal theme this year, NRC Akron 2006 said we are "Getting to Know You." So, for the 38 registered members and guests, plus three others not listed, that is what we did! As always, Akron '06 was an enjoyable time to once again 'getting to know' our regular and new friends!

So now, you say how (was it), we said 'wow', and take a bow for the grand effort our 'coordinating hosts' and wonderful friends from Florida, John and Linda Bowker, performed - for NRC Akron 2006! All the world, or at least here, was their stage! Their performances or 'roles' included reserving the hotel, The Best Western Executive Inn at 2677 Gilchrist Road, (Route 91) exit 27 south off Ohio 1-76, registering attendees, organizing the "Program Plan", scheduling the banquet, and made sure we wore our 'masks' or smiles! John also 'acted' in some of the programs like a slide show and the candy quiz. John and Linda also tallied the funds for the NRC Auction.

"Convention radio" for the people and radio people for the convention were present also. At .035 watts, WNRC-101.5 FM, "Your Convention Station", was on the air for the three days in the meeting room. The station was assembled courtesy by WNRC CE and DXAS Editor Fred Vobbe. The programming consisted of oldies and MoR music, WCFL jingle inserts, a talk program, "Coast to Coast America", and those ads! Locally produced, those 'oldie but goodie' ads included "Weasel Whiz Beer" and "Ken Packs a Package", a tongue-in-cheek tribute to Ken Chatterton! Some of WNRC's equipment included a Belar Modulation Monitor, an Orban Optimod-8100 audio processor, and an FME-100mw Transmitter from Vobbe Communications.

The radio people were two local personalities, Joey Harper Hall and Bill Hall, from WAPS (Akron Public Schools) "91.3 The Summit", named for Akron's Summit County, who spoke before our banquet and sang for their supper! In attendance and who arranged for our speakers to be here was through the courtesy of Akron's WAKR-1590/WONE-97.5 Account Executive Tim Davisson. Twice I had met Tim, first at NRC Pittsburgh '01 and second in 2002 at a tour of WAKR and Ohio stations just prior to NRC Lima. For his efforts, Tim's accountability and impeccability was correct!

Labeled as the "City of Invention" and twice an "All-America City" in 1981 and 1995, Akron, Ohio was founded in 1825. Built on the Ohio and Erie Canal by folks from New England and immigrants of Irish and German descent, the canal boats were constructed near the intersection of Main & Exchange Streets. Of historical significance, the boats carried the oatmeal that fed Union troops during the Civil War. Later as a home-grown industry, Quaker Oats made Akron famous for the cereal "shot from guns!" Hardly shot, but now with minimal production, Akron is still the corporate and scientific research home for Goodyear, Firestone, and Uniroyal-Goodrich. "On the Wings of" Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company was incorporated in 1898 and named after Charles Goodyear. Along with his brother Charles, F. A. (Franklin Augustus) Seiberling founded their company which grew with the automotive industry to establish Akron as "The Rubber Capital of the World." Within the company were Seiberling's inventions of the tire-making machine and the detachable wheel rim.

Just south of the immense Goodyear plant is Akron's Triplett Boulevard and home to four of the city's landmarks. One is the 82-year-old Fulton Airport which also contains the Akron Airdock, an immense ten story 'hump of a building'. The airdock built dirigibles including the USS Akron, launched in 1931, and the USS Macon. Near the airport is the third landmark, the All-American Soap Box Derby 6 lane track and museum. As the race started in 1934 in Dayton, Ohio, it then moved two years later in 1936 to Akron because of its



**DDXD-West Editor Bill Dvorak, fresh from the recent Wisconsin DX'ers' gathering, got a chance to relax for a change at the NRC convention in Akron.**



central location and hilly terrain. Through the government's WPA (Works Progress Administration), "Derby Downs" was built and sixty years later is now the center of the world for soap box derby car racing for youths age 8-17. Last and adjacent to the Downs is Akron's "Rubber Bowl." Another WPA project completed in 1940, the 'bowl' or football stadium is home to the University of Akron Zips.

Zippering into downtown and around the dial are Akron's landmark buildings, the cultural district, and the radio market. The four historic buildings all opened in 1931. Now used for other purposes, they include the YMCA and YWCA buildings, the Mayflower (Hotel) Manor, and First Merit Tower which was the Central Depositors Bank & Trust. A good deposit makes sense in the cultural district's two civic jewels. One is the 77 year old Akron civic Theatre, one of only 4 or 5 remaining atmospheric theatres in the country. The second is the Akron Symphony Orchestra that has concerts at the E.J. Thomas Performing Arts Hall on the University of Akron campus. With a population around 600,000 and the 73rd market listed by Arbitron (2005), what's music to our ears is metro Akron's 12 stations, (5 AMI 7 FM). Of the 5 AMs, 3 are licensed to Akron. The oldest station is WARF-1350, but for years was the "Whistler" WSLR which signed on the air in 1925. Broadcasting 66 years in October is WHLO-640 and WAKR-1590. So, let's 'whistle' a tune, say 'hello', and 'wake 'er' up for now it's on with the show!

On the first weekend of September, the weather was dismal and dreary; however, spirits were



**Bill and Brenda Swiger and Fred Vobbe find a way to relax from the vigors of the NRC convention.**

bright and sunny registering on Day One, Friday, September 1, for Akron' 06 in the NRC Reception Room 206. We officially 'signed on' at 7: 30 PM with John Bowker's greeting and his interesting slide show program, "Radio Networks." The program was an illustrated look at radio's history 100 years ago to today. This included the first broadcast on Christmas eve and night at Brandt Rock, MA. Then the earliest stations including 8XK and KDKA and WWJ which still claims to be 'the' first station and today still IDs, "Radio One." Also, the early networks like

NBC's Red and Blue, CBS, ABC, to the many networks today. There was John's silent history, too. This included his many unique and fascinating books of radio like the story of WLS to the 80 year plus collection of "Radio Digest" newspapers! Now in WSM land having recently relocated to Nashville, we thank member David Jones for his donations (stickers, magnets, pens, etc.) mailed from 3 stations, WOI-640, WPLN-1430j 90.3, and WGNS-1450. Later, time was 'donated' for bed!

Double your pleasure and double our fun, Day Two, Saturday, September 2, is here, but still there is no sun! Instead another guest, uninvited and survived, a tropical storm with rain, Ernesto has arrived! Meanwhile, members thought the DXAS program "After Dark" commenced, literally, but we were somewhat 'in the dark' as a power failure in the morning unplugged the hotel for an hour. Fortunately, we were all 'powered up' and ready for the day.

During the day, we learned about three members who spoke about themselves from a bio sheet that was given upon registration. A couple of questions were, "do you DX much?" and "what radio(s) do you use?" Our first member and the first NRC convention attended was for; DDXD-West Editor, since 2005, Bill Dvorak of Madison, Wisconsin! A graduate of the University of Wisconsin and a huge sports fan, Bill will be celebrating 50 years of DXing, October 15, 1956, and asked that congratulatory cards were welcome! Bill has also 'managed' or hosted the Madison and Wisconsin GTG since 1994. Their theme, 'getting together', is a one-day affair on the third Saturday in August as 41 DXers attended recently. However, Bill now 'shares time' or alternating with friend Tim Noonan, now living in Milwaukee, each year as hosts. Batting second was DXN and also e-DXN Publisher/Moderator Paul Swearingen of Topeka, Kansas. Paul's career 'in the majors' of DXing started one year earlier than Bill in 1955. Paul still has his first 'glove' or radio, a 5-tube table radio. Paul has been a 'player and coach' as a listener and broadcaster. His first 'position' was at "Kay-Allen" or KALN-1370 (Allen County) in Iola, KS in junior college. Then in 1966, Paul 'switched positions' to KVOE-1400 while attending Emporia State in Kansas. Now as 'manager', Paul is a high school teacher in Topeka, was the NRC Topeka



1989 host, and DXN Publisher for 18 years, so do send congratulatory cards and letters! Later, 'batting third' was Ernie Wesolowski of Omaha, NE. As a member since 1959, Ernie and his group hosted two NRC conventions in 1959 and 1992 in Omaha, and is our resident video expert. Thank you all for your expertise!

The tapes were rolling in the afternoon as the chief expert, DXAS Editor Fred Vobbe of Lima, Ohio presented an interesting and informative slide show on his TV station, WLIO-35, in Lima conversion to digital and some history. Employed here since 1985 and now as Vice-President & Chief Operator, Fred explained how his new station, WLIO-DT 8, was built. Having a 72 share in the Lima market, the northwest Ohio area was feasible enough to allow a TV 8 with 30 kW, due to HD's smaller bandwidth, amongst two TV 7's in Dayton and Detroit. The conversion included building a 160-foot tower on the side of the TV 35 tower, purchasing a new transmitter from Canada, upgrading the transmitter room, and reinforcing the tower for added weight and lightning strikes. Fred also described his tower maintenance procedures which would make anyone out of breath! He added that at one time WLIO also housed WLOK-1240/103.3. Finally, an interesting point discussed was the FCC mandate that by 2009 the U.S. TV market must be all digital, but only if 85% of the country has the capability.

At 5:45 PM, our capability was to assemble in the hotel's hall, then descend below the 'ship' to the Best Western's Captain's Cove restaurant for the NRC Banquet. The hall was for the NRC Group Photo, the cove for our group's delicious dinner which included prime rib! Via Erie, PA, equally primed was another registered guest, 87-year-old Harley Steward along with his grandson Robbie and wife! Arriving late, Harley still kept his 'date' with us. My only other meeting with Harley was just before and during Pittsburgh '90. With a radio in every room at home, Harley still receives his DX from afar in the night and stars!

Prior to our banquet in the 'cove', an interesting exchange was arranged for two local and engaging personalities from WAFS, Joey Harper Hall and Bill Hall! The Halls related 'tall' tales about their careers in northeast Ohio radio and sales. Then they 'fell' for each other at WAKR in 1982. Each moved on as Bill went to Akron's Clear Channel station WHLO while Joey 'answered the bell' or started at WMMO-98.9 in Orlando, FL. Though all is well now as they've been working for two years with a full slate on their 'plate' at public radio WAFS. Traveling or operating with a budget of \$300,000, 2,000 watt WAFS is primarily at "Adult Alternative" or "MA" station. WAFS's 'directions' or programs include mostly rock, and some jazz, blues, and reggae. Though now in sales, Joey's love of jazz allows her to host "Late Night Jazz with Joey" on Tuesday from 11PM to midnight and streaming audio at [www.913thesummit.com](http://www.913thesummit.com). As midday 4-8 PM host, veteran personality Bill Hall has been at five station groups but really enjoys being at this 'oasis' or station. With only six employees at WAFS, Bill is 'one of us' and is against corporate radio's takeover of the medium primarily as a profit source. He feels, "radio news is not what it used to be," and thinks it should strive to serve the public interest. Bill does approve of digital radio for the medium. Our approval rating for the Halls was very high and enjoyed meeting or 'walking' the Halls for entertainment!

Returning to the reception room, next up is "Wayne's World II" or the NRC Business Meeting hosted by the new NRC Chairman of the Board Wayne Heinen. From Aurora (Denver), Colorado, along with wife Joan, Wayne acquired club duties this year from Ken Chatterton who still remains on



**"What about the puppies?"** Joan Heinen seems to be asking husband Wayne. The Heinens managed to make it to Akron, and other parts of the country, with a pair of well-behaved dogs accompanying them.



**"Mr. Hands",** aka Ernie Wesolowski, holds the plaque to be presented to Ben J. Dangerfield in honor of his many years of DX'ing and service to the NRC.



John Maliky's No. 1 verie from WNRC-FM seems to indicate that a roomfull of transmitter powered the signal from the antenna to John's receiver.



The WNRC transmitter is actually a bit more diminutive than the verie card would indicate.

look, listen, and learn!

As a question arose whether the convention dates might still move off the Labor Day weekend, with 2008 being the NRC's "diamond" or 75th anniversary, there was no question or negative response that Ben Dangerfield of Wallingford, PA will receive a 'gem' of a plaque as Member of the Year for 2006!

Another recognition was given to the Bowkers and the Heinens, who were looking fine, for now they can dine when Ernie Wesolowski presented each of them with a bottle of apricot wine, from Iowa! This gift was for their service of overseeing the club like a 'hawk' while keeping an 'eye' on its progress! Salute!

the board. All inquiries about NRC Publications now go to Wayne, as Manager, at P.O. Box 473251, Aurora, CO 80047-3251. As a member since 1965, Wayne, and Joan, have coordinated and assembled the NRC AM Logbook since 1992-93. Wayne also hosted NRC Aurora '95 which is when the last time we met him. Now, due to time for NRC duties, Wayne could not host another convention, but solicited bids for 2007. Also, he acknowledged, in attendance, Bill and Brenda Swiger, of Bridgeport, WV, for their great and timely effort shipping reprint orders. Wayne confirmed the club is healthy while recognizing, ala Frank Sinatra, the rest of the 'rat pack' or board members, John Bowker from Florida, Ken Chatterton of New York, Bill Hale of Texas, and Dick Truax of Indiana. Of interest, in the banquet room, there was a poster of the 'real rat pack', along with two slot machines, a dart board, and a television! Not by chance, but with vision, the NRC has stayed in tune with the world's electronic relay of information as Wayne noted, "the Internet was designed to allow the dysfunctional of the world to get to the rest of us!"

A salute was also given for the great editors of the club, Paul Swearingen of DXN and Fred Vobbe for DXAS. Regarding the number of members, there are now 560 NRC members worldwide, 531 members domestically, and just over 100 members in DXAS. At one time, the NRC had 820 members at its highest point. Now, if NRC membership drops below 500, the club will lose the mailing discount. On the other side and in almost a full year, e-DXN, or the electronic version of DXN, which includes both DXN and DXAS, now has 192 members! No, make that 193 as Tim Davisson made the connection! Subscription cost for e-DXN new members are \$15, and just \$5 added on to an existing membership. Wayne was also looking 'back to the future' when MP3 players will replace cassettes. He added 'the day the earth stood still' or stand is when the club can't acquire the tapes or use cassette players. Fred mentioned that e-DXN has been great, but with that type of service, the only drawback is,



Finally, it's "Saturday Night Live" as a 'bumper' crop of goodies was here for those 'sticking around' for the NRC Auction! The auction was highlighted by a purchase from Bill Swiger of a fine woven and embroidered "National Radio Club" shirt. The final tally was a 'WHK' or 1420 plus zero! Now, less talk, more sleep!

Day Three, the final day, Sunday morning, September 3, many rose with a sweet taste for the NRC quizzes. First was the verbal candy quiz hosted by John Bowker. The quiz would delight any man, woman, or 'toots(ie)'. Roll on next we did to the NRC Quiz which was won by a tied score of 53 by Akron's George Greene and Bob Smolarek, just two of the all men. Joy was how he felt when Bob received the 'jawbreaker' news that he won, as no 'snickers' were heard, a free year's subscription to DXN! A couple of interesting questions included were, "What 1200(AM) station in Virginia would you like to earn?" The answer was WAGE-Leesburg. Also, "What 1500(AM) station in Indiana is listed on every bedside radio?" The answer was WAKE in Valparaiso. I also had a question, not listed, "Why did the boy stare at the automobile's radio? He wanted to watch a car-tune!" It's no joke that this convention, NRC Akron 2006, has concluded!

"This is Radio Station WNRC, Your Convention Station, for Akron 2006 now signing off and concluding another convention weekend. We hope you enjoyed our programs, shows, music, friends, speakers, banquet, quizzes, and auction. WNRC, the NRC and the DXAS, is a non-profit organization operated solely by volunteers and powered by the people for DX and the medium-wave hobby. Our offices and studios are in Topeka, Kansas and Lima, Ohio while transmitting via USPS and e-DXN. We hope you'll tune in again and visit us at NRC 2007. For the staff, management, and members, this is John Malicky saying goodnight and 73s!"

#### NRC Akron 2006 Registrants:

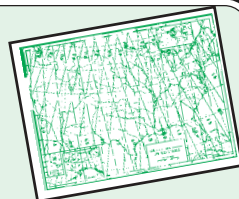
CO: Wayne & Joan Heinen  
 CT: Camille Petrecca  
 FL: John & Linda Bowker, Lee Freshwater, and Mike Lantz  
 IL: Marc Marino and Frank Merrill  
 KS: Paul Swearingen  
 MA: Glenn Cooper, Donna Fanelle, and Bob & Rita LaVigne  
 MI: John Bill Daller  
 NY: Jerry Bond, Scott Fybush, and Jon German  
 NE: Ernie Wesolowski  
 NJ: Bob Antoniuk and Bob Smolarek  
 OH: Tim Davisson, Ted Faix, George Greene, and Fred Vobbe  
 OR: John Adams  
 PA: Harry Hayes, John Malicky, Harley Steward, Robbie & Lynn Steward, Jason Togyer, and Curt White  
 TN: David Jones  
 WI: Bill Dvorak  
 WV: Bill & Brenda Swiger  
 ON: Paul Blais, Maia Guidolin, Wayne Ryan, and Dave Whatmough

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### **Sunrise-Sunset Maps**

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# From the BoD

*News from the NRC Board of Directors*

John D. Bowker [jbowker@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:jbowker@tampabay.rr.com)

P. O. Box 5192

Sun City Center FL 33571-5192

## About Conventions

By John Bowker

We would like to hear from everyone who attended the Akron Convention about their experience there.

If it will help get you started, here are some questions to ponder:

- Was the planned program (Friday night to Sunday noon) long enough?
- Did you find the presentations of interest?
- The theme this year was "getting to know you" and maybe that should be extended another time?
- How was the banquet and the guest speakers?
- Was there anything wrong with the hotel accommodations?
- Was Akron a good site for the convention?
- What about your costs for the convention?
- Was the convention everything you had hoped for?

Please think about each of those questions, and write to us with all your thoughts so we can give the best guidance to the hosts for future conventions.

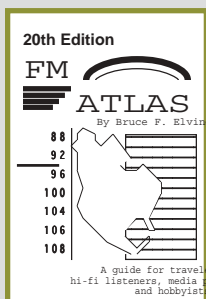
And, while you're at it, seriously consider becoming a host for a convention yourself. The Board will tell you the things you need to consider. If you are thinking "maybe", let us know by mail or e-mail, and one of us will call you by telephone to chat about how easy it really is.

Please respond to: National Radio Club - PO Box 5192 - Sun City Center, FL 33571-5192, and the e-mail address for this subject is: [jbowker@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:jbowker@tampabay.rr.com).

Good dx!

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The world-famous guide which has served FM DX'ers for over 20 years is available from NRC Publications at the special price of \$20.00 for NRC USA/Canada members, \$24.00 USA/Canada non-members, \$25.00 for all others. Order from NRC Publications - P.O. Box 473251, Aurora CO - 80047-3251. (CO residents, please add 3.5% sales tax.)

## Problems, Problems?

We can't solve all your woes, but we can solve your *DX News* problems. Torn, soiled, partially-printed, MIA, or worst of all, delivered in a USPS plastic baggie? No need to return the copy - just end a postcard to NRC - 2840 SE Illinois Ave. - Topeka, KS 66605, or e-mail to [plsBCBDXER@aol.com](mailto:plsBCBDXER@aol.com) and a replacement copy will be mailed free. Missing a back issue? Replacement copies from Vol. 56 on, to current NRC members only, are sent for the cost of first-class postage. You joined in the middle of the year and need to fill out a volume? Send \$1.00 per copy (postage paid). Quantities can be sent at the Media Mail rate.

**See? No problem!**

# *DX'er's Notebook*

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Chicago, IL 60640-5570

*Shared tips, topics, and Internet info*

Welcome to another edition of *DX'er's NoteBook*. This time, the topic is sunrise and sunset North American DX, and I've decided to re-run an article that was originally written by Russ Edmunds. If you have questions you'd like answered, or topics you'd like to see discussed, let me know either by email or at the regular mail address above!!

DX'ing around local sunrise and sunset can be extremely profitable to the DX'er in terms of new loggings, and there are several helpful methods to be explored for taking full advantage. First and foremost, you need to have a set of sunrise/sunset maps, which are available from the NRC Publications Center. For each calendar month, the FCC has established specific times for stations to change from their authorized daytime facilities over to their authorized nighttime facilities, or, if a daytimer, to sign off. [Note: use of the term 'facilities' includes transmitter powers and antenna patterns; in a few cases separate transmitter sites are used for day and night operations.] Stations are grouped based on quarter-hour segments falling closest to the actual sunrise and sunset times at the individual locations. The zones shown on the maps represent these groupings. It should be noted, however, that there are multiple exceptions to this general statement. Many stations also have specific and often different facilities authorized for use during Critical Hours (CH), Canadian Restricted (CR), Pre-Sunrise Authority (PSA) and/or Post-Sunset Authority (PSSA). [ Note: definitions for these terms may be found in the front of the NRC Domestic Log. The way in which different combinations of facilities are assigned dictates the operations codes such as 'U3' or 'D1' used in the Log.] The DX'er should enter the hour designations onto the maps either for the home location, or in such other standard time as you prefer.

Owing to the direction of the Earth's rotation, both sunrise and sunset appear first at the eastern side of the continent, and gradually progress westward. This means that DX'ers located in different parts of the continent must approach sunrise and sunset DX somewhat differently. DX'ers located on or near either coast have no stations (either targets or sources of interference) located in one or more directions, whereas DX'ers located in most of the rest of the country can look forward to DX'ing through the approach and passing of local sunrise or sunset.

What actually occurs at these times is a result of the differing medium wave signal propagation characteristics of day and night. As either sunrise or sunset approaches and passes the DX location, these propagation characteristics change. During the day, groundwave propagation predominates, and reception beyond 1000 miles is rare during the winter and nonexistent during the summer. At night, for all but the most powerful and/or closest stations, the predominant type of propagation becomes skywave, where signals are refracted by layers of electrically charged particles located in the ionosphere. Thus, as sunrise approaches, more distant receptions to the east of the DX location begin to diminish, and, as sunrise moves to the west, distant reception from the other directions also diminishes. As sunset approaches, the reverse situation occurs.

Of course, a look at the sunrise/sunset maps will illustrate that in most months the effects aren't simply 'east vs. west', as the earth's rotation and orbit around the sun create month-to-month variations such that the pattern may actually be 'northeast vs. southwest' for example. But this is part of the fun and also the challenge of this aspect of the hobby, because the pattern changes every month, along with the changeover times, the zones themselves, and, as a result, which stations fall into which zones.

Once you are familiar with the maps and how they illustrate these patterns, it's time to decide which frequencies you'll want to concentrate on. But don't be too quick to eliminate frequencies occupied by strong locals unless they are very strong, because one of the side effects of sunrise/sunset DX is that in many cases these may be the only times (and only during the late Fall through early Spring months) when it may be possible to hear anything underneath these locals. [Note: in many cases, some sort of a gain or directional antenna will be required to do this, but there are times when stations may appear along with the locals even without such antennas.] Two separate lists will be required – one for sunrise and another for sunset.

The first consideration in making such a list today is dramatically different from what was the first consideration 20+ years ago, as a result of the proliferation of fulltime operations, PSA's, and PSSA's where there were once mostly daytimers. Many DX'ers can remember when it was possible to DX from the northern part of the east coast and hear stations all the way to California on 1580, and well into the west on 1570! Back then, aside from a handful of fulltimers in Canada or Mexico, these chan-

nels contained nothing but daytime stations, and signoffs could be followed in sequence across the country. Today, making a target list is much more complex, as not only are there fulltime stations on most frequencies, but there are also increasing numbers of stations which remain on with their daytime facilities well into the night, although Pacific Northwestern DX'ers still hear stations along the East Coast near sunrise using directional antennas.

The target list should start with frequencies where you have no strong locals, and where even at night it is possible to hear more than one station. You'll also probably want to eliminate any frequencies adjacent to your most difficult pests. Next, you'll need to see what stations there are which you might reasonably be able to hear at sunrise or sunset.

Start with stations whose sunrise or sunset time is no more than one half hour different from that at your QTH, and also within about 300-400 miles. Now review the lists to see if any of the stations you've selected as targets are likely to be covered by a regional station on the same channel with higher power or closer to you, and if so, move those to the bottom of your list. You can expand beyond these parameters later on.

In order to maximize your potential for successful sunrise/sunset DX'ing, you'll need to review your target stations along with any co-channel or adjacent channel interference possibilities against the maps on a month-by-month basis across the DX season. One way to do this is to photocopy the maps and then actually plot in the locations of target stations. Because most of your targets will be within a relatively concentrated geographic area, you may need multiple copies of the maps. To conserve space, use numbers or letters to correspond to the target stations to identify the points on the maps.


Your target stations should fall into the following categories: daytime stations signing on or off, fulltime stations having significant power and/or pattern changes between day and night, and stations where an interfering station's sunrise or sunset time may differ from those of the target station so as to permit reception. Remember, though, that through all else, conditions on specific frequencies and along specific paths can vary considerably from day to day as well as month to month, and sometimes it may take time to hear some of the stations on your list. Unfortunately, too, there are always some which may either never be heard or be heard only by some unusual chance occurrence such as another station going off the air, or your target station remaining on day facilities unexpectedly.

As you DX at sunrise and sunset more frequently, you will also discover that there are other patterns to your receptions. You'll learn that in the Fall, when the days are getting shorter, your best receptions will come near the end of the month, when daylight is the shortest relative to the monthly average, and that in the months after the Winter Solstice, the best receptions come toward the beginning of the month for the same reason. You'll also discover that stations in the located closest to the eastern zone boundary will often be stronger than those at the western one at sunset, again owing to a slightly earlier actual sunset as compared to the monthly average. At sunrise, however, this works in reverse, because it is the light rather than the darkness that is moving westward.

Also, it pays to remember that auroral conditions impact DX at sunrise and sunset, which will usually present receptions from southerly directions that would otherwise be unheard or eliminate a usual interference source, letting another station get through. Similarly, there may also be duct-like openings occurring at sunrise or sunset which can result in stations from particular geographic areas coming through where they are normally not heard. Finally, remember that few stations actually "throw the switch" at exactly the same time. Very often you can hear three or more different stations on the same frequency with the same listed sunrise or sunset time making their changes one after another.

Good hunting!!

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

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# The Answerman

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*Answers to questions posed by NRC members*

Several days ago I received an interesting letter from Russ Edmunds (former Editor of the Answerman and the Target DX Columns in *DX News*, and, since I was a new editor just starting out in this field he offered to send me a few of his prior columns to see his way of writing.

In due course the material arrived, and in looking it over I realized that since it is the start of the DX Season, some of the material could bear repeating – especially for the newer members just getting started so I apologize to those of you who have read this material before but, you might be interested in some of the comments that I have added.

*Q- What are auroral conditions, and why should they concern me as a BCB DX'er?*

A- Many of us tend to toss around this term lightly, not realizing that for many DX'ers newer to the hobby, the terms aren't self-explanatory. Many of us can recall learning about the Northern Lights ( or *Aurora Borealis* ) in grammar school science classes. These displays are caused by energy from the sun coming into contact with the earth's geomagnetic field and combining to form a number of reactions. The same condition also causes highly variable and often very localized effects on radio signals in many bands.

On the BCB, the effect is that during periods of auroral conditions, which often coincide with displays of visible aurora, certain signals on certain paths may seem to disappear. This is because instead of the signals being reflected normally by one of the skywave reflective layers, they are absorbed by other layers induced by the aurora. In the Americas, these effects are the most pronounced in the Northeastern and North Central parts of the continent, although in particularly severe conditions, the effects can be noted throughout most of the US and all of Canada ( the US Southwest is generally the least affected ).

'Normal' nighttime skywave reception is dependent on ionospheric reflection and distance between transmitter and receiver. This distance determines which paths are viable, and also what elevation angles ( if we assume a flat earth — it's much simpler that way, hi — the earth can be thought of as the base of an equilateral triangle, and the signal path from the transmitter to the reflecting point in the ionosphere would be one side, and from the same point down to the receiver would be the other side. The angle created where either side meets the base is the elevation angle ) apply to each. Fortunately, there are a finite number of reflecting layers applicable. In an aurora, a layer of absorption may appear between the reflecting point and either the transmitter, the receiver, or both. This absorption may occur on multiple potential signal paths involving multiple reflective layers, because each path may have to pass through it.

When the auroral absorbs some signals, others, which might normally be either weak or inaudible come to the top. The usual situation has signals coming from stations generally to the North being absorbed first, then, if the aurora is more severe, stations from the East or West may be affected. In the most severe conditions, some stations from the South may even be affected. But remember that only those signals which are propagated by skywave are subject to absorption. Locals or semi-locals may in fact appear stronger than usual as their groundwave signals will dominate.

Thus, many DX'ers refer to auroral conditions as meaning that Latin American and/or Southern US stations might be expected to predominate. By varying degrees, this is true. A key predictor of auroral conditions is the A-index, which measures activity in the earth's geomagnetic field.

*Q- During a recent period where auroral conditions were forecast, I only noted enhanced reception at the lower end of the dial, mostly from Cuba. Northern and Midwestern stations (WBBM, WGN, WLS, WTAM, CBA, CKBW, CKAC, CHNS, etc.) were still coming in with good signals. In addition, WWV hasn't been reporting anything out of the ordinary.*

A- First off, it is not all that unusual for the lower end of the band to exhibit auroral conditions, while the upper end does not. This is because auroral absorption ( as well as nighttime ionospheric [ skywave ] propagation ) is frequency-sensitive. Absorption of frequencies in the BCB occur from low to high as the MUF ( Maximum Usable Frequency ) rises thru the band as a result of geomagnetic activity. Second, however, what you were experiencing wasn't really classic auroral conditions. As you observed, neither the A nor K indices were elevated. Typically, for classic auroral conditions to occur, there either needs to be a day where the A index exceeds 50, or as many as three consecutive days

where it exceeds 20, and even these numbers are not firm. What was most likely responsible is a geomagnetic substorm, which selectively and briefly (owing to small size and duration) disrupt normal conditions.

Finally, it should be noted that it is also not uncommon for these types of events (and also classic aurora) to be 'uneven'. It may be helpful to think of an area of auroral absorption as if it were a patch of fog, irregular in shape, size, and location, and all of these are in a state of constant movement. In addition, the frequency-sensitivity noted earlier will also apply. Add the fact that for any given transmitter and receiver location set, there may be multiple nighttime skip paths which are possible, and the absorption, owing to all of the above variables, may not always affect them all.

Depending upon the location of the absorptive material relative to these signal paths, none, some, all-but-one or all of the possible paths may be blocked by areas of absorption. But move either the transmitter location or receiver location as little as 50 miles and everything can change. This is one cause for situations where stations from some cities may be absorbed while other cities in the same region may not be, or only partially be absorbed. The same is true with the passage of time, because as the area of absorption moves relative to a specific stationary receiving site, different geographic groups of stations may be subjected to absorption or not. This is particularly the case with smaller storms and with substorms.

Another cause for such a phenomenon, which is also frequency-sensitive, and appears sometimes in conjunction with larger storms is sporadic e-skip, where particles form, disintegrate and re-form to create highly temporary and selective reflection of signals which would otherwise be absorbed. The name of this phenomenon is derived from the fact that these particles form at about the same altitude as the 'normal' nighttime e reflecting layer.

*Q- Can auroral conditions be observed during the daylight hours?*

A- Since auroral absorption affects only signals which would otherwise propagate via skywave, and since the majority of daytime receptions occur via groundwave, auroral absorption observable by day would be extremely rare. In theory, since in midwinter some skywave is possible during the day at BCB frequencies, if the aurora is severe enough and the receiver and transmitter locations are far enough North, it should be possible.

*Q- Why is it that sometimes during auroral conditions some stations to the North, usually in one specific area, will be quite strong while the rest of them are either weaker or inaudible?*

A- There are two possible answers to this. First, during larger auroral disturbances, various particles in the ionosphere group together at roughly the same altitude as the normal E-layer, and form 'clouds' of Sporadic-E. These areas act as a temporary, and often mobile, reflecting layer, and may even disappear only to reappear later, which accounts for the name. The phenomenon is not fully understood, but it is frequently observable. Another possibility, which again is usually only noted during severe auroral events, is a seemingly-enhanced groundwave. This is a result of the elimination of the usual signals from the Northerly directions because of the auroral absorption. By removing these normally dominant signals, sometimes groundwave signals from stations which are usually covered may become audible.

*Q- Why, when conditions are extremely auroral, do I pick up not only stations to the South, but also lots of CW (code) and other noise that sounds like a dozen TV sets are running in the next room?*

A- Similarly to the second part of the previous answer, often these noises are covered by the skywave signals which have been absorbed by the auroral activity. In some cases, rather than (or in addition to) groundwave from stations not normally heard, the result is noises which are not heard under normal conditions. Under such conditions, it is also not at all uncommon to hear numerous external mixing products or even harmonics of local stations which again would not normally be audible if it weren't for the absorption.

#### *Geomagnetic activity broadcasts*

The NOAA's Geophysical Alert Broadcasts are aired at 18 minutes past each hour over the U. S. National Institute of Standards and Technology radio station WWV in Ft. Collins, Colorado and at 45 minutes past each hour via WWHV on the island of Kauai in Hawaii. WWV broadcasts continuously on shortwave frequencies of 2.5, 5, 10, 15, and 20 MHz and WWVH broadcasts on 2.5, 5, 10 and 15 MHz. The broadcast text is updated every three-hours beginning at 0000 UTC. These broadcasts are produced by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Space Environment Services Center (SESC). This center operates a worldwide network of sensors, which continuously observe conditions between the earth and the sun.

*Editor's Note:* In case you miss the WWV broadcasts, you can go to <http://dx.gsl.net/propagation/propagation.html> at anytime, 24 hrs/day, 7 days a week and get the current band conditions (updated every 5 minutes), a nice Grey line Map, MUF (Max and Min useable Freq's) plus several other interesting charts and graphs are at the above website also.

We'll start by quoting the text of a WWV broadcast ( the text of these broadcasts is also available on the Internet, but more on that later ). Next, we'll look at the definitions of the terms in italics. Some of these definitions are taken from those provided on the website, albeit in some cases with some editing:

"Solar-terrestrial indices for 4 January follow. *Solar flux* 175 and Boulder *A-index* 11. The Boulder *K-index* at 1200 UTC on 5 January was 0. Solar-terrestrial conditions for the last 24 hours follow. *Solar activity* was low. The *geomagnetic field* was quiet to active. The forecast for the next 24 hours follows. Solar activity will be low to moderate. The geomagnetic field will be quiet to *unsettled*."

**SOLAR FLUX.** Solar Flux is a measurement of the intensity of solar radio emissions at a frequency of 2800 MHz made using a radio telescope located in Ottawa, Canada. These emissions have been shown to be proportional to sunspot activity, and are also responsible for causing ionization in the earth's upper atmosphere. These emissions produce the ionized 'layers' involved in propagating radio signals over long distances. Solar flux is reported in solar flux units (s. f. u.), which range from a theoretical minimum of approximately 67 to greater than 300.

**A INDEX.** A 3-hourly "equivalent amplitude" index of local geomagnetic activity; "Ap" is used to designate an equivalent planetary value based upon multiple local-site readings. The "a" is derived from the 3-hourly *K-index*.

**K INDEX.** A 3-hourly quasi-logarithmic local index of geomagnetic activity relative to an assumed quiet-day curve for the recording site. Range is from 0 to 9.

**SOLAR ACTIVITY.** Solar activity is a measure of energy releases in the solar atmosphere, generally observed by X-ray detectors on earth-orbiting satellites. Such energy is that which can or might be anticipated to cause disruptions or degradations to radio propagation on earth. Large solar x-ray outbursts can produce sudden and extensive ionization in the lower regions of the earth's ionosphere, which can rapidly increase signal absorption there. Occurring on the sun-facing side of the Earth, these 'sudden ionospheric disturbances' (SID's) can degrade radio communications for from minutes to hours. Since the sun rotates once approximately every 27 days, periods of disruption may recur at about this interval as a result.

Following are some additional definitions included in these reports as indicated by conditions at the time relating to Solar Activity:

**ACTIVE.** Solar activity levels with at least one geophysical event or several larger radio events per day

**PROTON FLARE.** Any flare producing significant fluxes of protons in the vicinity of the earth.

**QUIET.** Solar activity levels with less than one energetic event per day

**SOLAR FLARE.** A sudden eruption of energy on the solar disk lasting minutes to hours, from which radiation and particles are emitted. This is one type of energetic event, which can subsequently result in increased geomagnetic activity.

**GEOMAGNETIC FIELD.** The magnetic field which surrounds the earth where auroral conditions may result from specific types of solar activity.

**GEOMAGNETIC ACTIVITY.** As an overall assessment of natural variations in the geomagnetic field, six standard terms are used in reporting geomagnetic activity. The terminology is based on the estimated A index for the 24-hour period directly preceding the time the broadcast was last updated:

*Category Range of A-index*

Quiet	0-7
Unsettled	8-15
Active	16-29
Minor storm	30-49
Major storm	50-99
Severe storm	100-400

So, what the previous broadcast told us would be: *Solar flux* is about average, the A-index indicates average conditions. The K-index of 0 suggests that conditions might be improving. The sun was relatively inactive during the preceding 24 hours, which indicates that no major disturbances are likely the following day, either. The geomagnetic field conditions were variable during the preceding period. Predicted solar activity continues to suggest no disturbances, although the geomagnetic field will con-



tinue to be variable. These are very ordinary conditions, with the immediate next few days likely to show a slight improvement.

Below are some additional definitions of terms used in the broadcasts as conditions warrant:

**SOLAR WIND.** This is the outward flow of solar particles and magnetic fields from the sun. The velocity of the solar wind often increases dramatically as a result of certain solar energetic events. This in turn can spark increased activity in the earth's geomagnetic field, or even aurora.

**SUNSPOT NUMBER.** A daily index of sunspot activity.

As a predictor of future conditions, remember that it takes roughly three days for activity on the sun to create an adverse effect on earth, and that the best Trans-Atlantic DX conditions are produced by several successive days of A indices below 8, and no values over 30 within the past 2-3 weeks. On the other hand, heavy activity on the sun doesn't always lead to disturbed conditions. Disturbances are less likely when they are produced by sunspots or sunspot groups located near the edges of the sun's disk ( or face ).

As we noted earlier, you can access the text of the current transmission via the Internet as well as by broadcast. The URL for this is <http://www.sec.noaa.gov/radio/radio.html> (*Editor's Note: this info is also given at the web address mentioned above*). From this page, select the option for "Latest Geophysical Alert Message – WWV Broadcast". More detailed information can be found under the options for "Report of Solar & Geophysical Activity" and "Solar & Geophysical Activity Summary".

Good DXing

## "TOWER SITE 2007 CALENDAR" GOES ON SALE

*Sixth Big Year For One Of America's Most Unusual Calendars*

**CONTACT:** Scott Fybush, 585-442-5411 ([scott@fybush.com](mailto:scott@fybush.com))

ROCHESTER, N.Y. – One of North America's most unusual wall calendars is back for a sixth year, with the publication of the "Tower Site 2007 Calendar."

The calendar, which features a monthly photo of a well-known broadcast transmitter site, is photographed and written by Scott Fybush, the creator of "Tower Site of the Week" ([www.fybush.com/featuredsite.html](http://www.fybush.com/featuredsite.html)) and "NorthEast Radio Watch" ([www.fybush.com/nerw.html](http://www.fybush.com/nerw.html)).

The full-color monthly calendar has become a tradition for many radio engineers and a curiosity for those who think all radio towers look alike.

"The response to the 2006 calendar was the best yet," says Fybush. "Radio engineers have been begging me to add their towers to the calendar, and I'm hoping to make some of them very happy with the 2007 edition."

As in its predecessors, each month of the 2007 calendar features an 8"x11" color photograph of a broadcast transmitter site, taken by Fybush during his travels around the U.S., Canada and beyond. The sites pictured on the 2007 calendar:

- 1 WCCO, Minneapolis, the 50-kilowatt voice of the upper Midwest
- 2 Philadelphia's Roxborough FM/TV tower farm, in a dramatic nighttime shot
- 3 Atlanta's newest 50-kilowatt AM signal, WCFO 1160
- 4 New York City's ESPN outlet, WEPN 1050
- 5 The two towers of Boston's legendary WBZ
- 6 The three towers of KGO, San Francisco, in the waters of the East Bay
- 7 A stunning sunset view of the hilltop tower farm overlooking Duluth, Minnesota
- 8 Chicago's WGRB 1390 and WVON 1690
- 9 The remote Mount Potosi FM antennas, high above Las Vegas, Nevada
- 10 Wintertime shots of two small "hometown" stations – WJOT Wabash, Indiana and WCJW Warsaw, N.Y.
- 11 The historic site of WTIC, Hartford, Connecticut, in use since the 1920s
- 12 From Andy Griffith's hometown, the picturesque site of WPAQ, Mount Airy, N.C.
- 13 The seven towers of KOIL, Plattsmouth, Nebraska, near Omaha

In addition to tower photos, the calendar's monthly pages include significant dates in radio and television history, as well as civil and religious holidays.

The 2007 calendars cost \$17 each, postpaid (\$18.36 including sales tax for New York State residents), and can be purchased by check (payable to "Scott Fybush") or money order to 92 Bonnie Brae Avenue, Rochester NY 14618. Orders can also be placed with major credit cards at [www.fybush.com](http://www.fybush.com).

"I'm enjoying traveling around the country, meeting engineers and visiting their stations," says Fybush, who also edits the radio directory site 100000watts.com, anchors newscasts for NPR member station WXXI in Rochester, N.Y. and is a columnist for *Radio World*.

# Musings

## of the Members

Dave Schmidt NRCMusings@aol.com

P. O. Box 126

New Freedom, PA 17349-0126

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

*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.*

We welcome your reports and contributions, and we'd be glad to hear from you. Remember to including "Musings" in the subject line on your Emails and include your address, and if sending in a written report, please skip a line between lines; it worked all those years for ERC and it sure does help for now with me, I'm finding out. Like JOHN MALICKY said once "welcome to the double nickel"!

Tim Davisson, KD8GZ - P.O. Box 1457 - Norton, Ohio 44203 kd8gz@hotmail.com

Only items I have to contribute are WLEC Sandusky, Ohio (1450) is now Fox Sports Radio and nearby WLKR Norwalk, Ohio (1510) is ESPN Radio. Strange to have two AM sportstalk stations in such a small markets area. WLEC had been standards for years, and WLKR has most recently been satellite oldies. WLKR is the station that has had a blind d.j. for something like 30 years. He's still there...and is something of a celebrity in Norwalk. Heard this today....Friday, 10/6 when I was about 20 miles from that area. Also, on my Honda car radio heard a LOUD 910 Flint (I don't think it's still WFDF any more) with Radio Disney programming...obviously on 50kw from the Detroit metro area transmitter site. Very good signal in North Central Ohio about noon EDT. 73's,

Dave Schmidt - P O Box 126 - New Freedom, PA 17349-0126

Not a whole lot has been going on this past week; ran into some complications from the recent eye surgery but its been under treatment. Makes reading those tube numbers a little rough! What's YOUR best catch? Dare to share? A few of my 'better' ones were veries received from stations that were supposed to be limited to just on-campus coverage from a few of the local colleges and universities. That was until someone figured out how to tie a longwire antenna into a coupling unit and get some better coverage. One of the very first that I heard was in the early '60's, then WCSC-640 at West Chester

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(PA) College. They had a few homemade transmitters that their then engineer figured out how to make it 'work better' and increase the coverage to include almost 4 states, instead of the usual 4 blocks of the campus. A report brought a great letter verification explaining what was done to increase the signal and that the FCC had recently visited them also. The signal was gone a short time later. In the late '70's, I got to do some work for them (a side benefit to WCHE, I guess) and had a lot of fun with the 8-transmitter LPB system that we truly did keep the signal to within a few blocks of the campus. The frequency was changed to 680 when we learned of the start up of WWJZ, and it is now on 911.7 with 100 watts as WCUR. That's it for now; let's hear from YOU!

## Medium Wave Circle Reprint Collections

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