

DX News

• Serving DX'ers since 1933 •

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DX Tests Full details on our February DX Tests may be found on page 11.

notice says that public comments are due February 18. More information can be found at <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2011/2011-938.htm>.

DX Test Schedule (All Times ELT)		
Sat 12 Feb	KHMO-1070	0200-0205 0300-0305
Sat 12 Feb	WLIQ-1530	0400-0500
Sat 19 Feb	WLRB-1510	0200-0300

DX News Publishing Schedule, Vol. 78					
	Deadline	Masthead			
		24	Mar. 18	Mar. 28	
18	Jan. 28	Feb. 7	25	Apr. 1	Apr. 11
19	Feb. 4	Feb. 14	26	Apr. 22	May 2
20	Feb. 11	Feb. 21	27	May 27	June 6
21	Feb. 18	Feb. 28	28	July 1	July 11
22	Feb. 25	Mar. 7	29	Aug. 5	Aug. 15
23	Mar. 4	Mar. 14	30	Sept. 9	Sept. 19

From the Publisher: DX has been iffy the last couple weeks here, and it looks like it was there too, given the thin contributions to the logging columns. No IDXD this week, as Bruce had received only one report by deadline time, and he'll hold that report for next time. But Bruce does send along a fine report on the recent DXpedition to the historic Marconi Cape Cod radio site – a commemoration of the first transatlantic radio signals, and an opportunity to hear a whole bunch more!

The DX Time Machine

Help Wanted: We're still looking for a new editor for the occasional College Sports Network column, and for individual articles on areas of personal expertise. And of course the best way to support *DX News* is to contribute your loggings to IDXD and DDXD and to update us on your DX activities through Musings! It's a great hobby, and even more so when you share your knowledge (great or small) with fellow DXers.

75 years ago – From the January 29, 1936 *DX News* – The FCC annual report states that there were 623 radio stations in the United States as of June 30, 1935; WWJ is building a new 100-watt UHF experimental station, W8XWJ, atop a 48-story building in Detroit, to operate on 31,600 kc, or 9.48 meters.

TIS Expansion: The FCC request for public comment on the possible expansion of TIS service to all sorts of governmental stations – including possibly higher power to cover broader areas – was finally published in the *Federal Register* on January 19. (When I worked for the federal government, I got FR notices published in three business days – what takes the FCC three weeks, I don't know.) Anyway, the

50 years ago – From the January 28, 1961 *DX News* – Five DX tests were scheduled to run for the NRC on February 6, from KGGM-610 Albuquerque NM, CFCL-620 Timmins ON, CJME-1300 Regina SK, WFDR-1370 Manchester GA, and WYAL-1280 Scotland Neck NC.

25 years ago – From the January 27, 1986 *DX News* – Malcolm Maxwell reviewed the Sparkomatic SR430, and Linda Brodsky of Malverne, NY reported a new receiver, the Kenwood R-2000.

10 years ago – From the February 5, 2001 *DX News* – Numerous NRC members with broadcasting experience confessed to their most memorable on-air bloopers (and those of others that they had the opportunity to witness) in this week's Musings column.

NRC AM Radio Log, 31st Edition



The Log is unbound and three-hole punched for standard binders.
 Price: To the United States, \$19.95 to members, \$25.95 to non-members
 To Canada, \$24 to members, \$33.50 to non-members; add \$3.50 for
 Priority Mail
 Airmail to all outside US/Canada: \$34.00
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 Order from: NRC, P.O. Box 473251, Aurora CO 80047-3251 or
www.nrcdxas.org
 CO residents add 3.5% sales tax.

AM Switch



Bill Hale w_r_hale@sbcglobal.net

6124 Roaring Springs Drive

North Richland Hills, TX 76180-5552

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

CALL LETTER CHANGES

Old Call
960 WCHQ PR Quebradillas
1400 WAJQ GA Alma

New Call
WDNO
WAWO



ON THE AIR

930 WPAT NJ **Paterson** – In August 2009 WPAT's transmission lines were damaged in a construction accident while preparing for the addition of another facility at their tower site. Since then, the station has been operating at an unspecified "reduced power". The cabling has now been repaired/replaced, and **WPAT is back at their licensed U4 5000/5000.**

1240 KGY WA **Olympia** – KGY has completed their move to a new tower at 47-03-28/122-54-03, **remaining U1 1000/1000.**

1550 WNZF FL **Bunnell** – WNZF's CP for U2 11000/250 CH 9500 is on the air, increasing the day power and adding the CH designation.

ACTIONS

890 KTXV TX **Mabank** – CP granted to delete nighttime operation. KTXV is now D3 20000/0.

1230 KLIC LA **Richwood** – CP granted to change their City-of-License from Monroe. They will build a new 196' tower at 32-25-43/92-04-43 as they remain U1 1000/1000.

1590 WKTP TN **Jonesborough** – Licensed for U4 5000/5000, WKTP is operating under an STA with U1 1250/1250, as it was discovered that the station had not been operating within licensed directional antenna parameters. They will continue under the STA until the problem is corrected.



APPLICATIONS

1260 WNWK DE **Newark** – Licensed for U4 1000/42, WNWK lost its transmitter site in February of 2010. Since then, they have been operating under a Special Temporary Authorization (STA) with U1 50/10 using a long wire. They now have applied for U4 250/44 moving to a new 2-tower array at 39-38-29/75-40-47.

1400 WGHC GA **Clayton** – Applies to move to 830 kHz with D1 2800/0 CH 2800.

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

1180 NEW NV **Reno** – Applies for U2 7500/670.

LICENSE RENEWALS

840 WKTR VA **Earlyville**

DISMISSALS AND DELETIONS

1150 WDEL DE **Wilmington** – Their CP for U4 10000/5000 has been deleted. WDEL continues with U4 5000/5000.

1450 CHOR BC **Summerland** – Has signed off as the 90-day simulcast period with their new FM, CHOR-FM 98.5 has expired.

AM on FM

840 WKTR VA **Earlyville** – WBNN 105.3 Dillwyn
1400 KGVV TX **Greenville** – K290AP (105.9) Commerce
1520 KRHW MO **Sikeston** – K255AW (98.9) Sikeston

HEAR AND THAR

✿ **Returning to the airwaves:** KSTN-1420 Stockton, California playing oldies (may be an attempt to not lose their license for being off for a year); and KUAU-1570 Haiku, Hawaii was again heard, so they fixed the water damage suffered due to heavy rain falls in December.

✿ **Reported as Silent:** KYRO-1280 Potosi, Missouri; KEIN-1310 Great Falls, Montana (see News Item, below).

✿ **News Item: New Strata survey of ad agencies finds optimism – and a ‘re-birth of radio’** Chicago-based Strata says “optimism abounds, with television leading the charge,” as the medium that agency clients are “most focused on.” TV was at 44%, up 24%, followed by digital at 21% and “a surprise re-birth of **radio** at 15.6%.” That represents an increase of 75% from the previous quarter.

✿ **News Item: Montana’s oldest station, KEIN, has troubles**

The Great Falls Tribune reports the story about a long-simmering dispute between Munson Radio President Steven Dow and his transmitter site’s landlord. Creed Evans, owner of the property, says Dow hasn’t maintained the site as he’s required to under Montana law. Evans did some repairs himself, then sought reimbursement. The matter landed in court, and then something happened at the transmitter that shut it down. When Dow visited there Saturday (1/15/2011) morning, he says he found a new padlock and a sheriff’s order on the door, though everybody involved denies they were the party who broke into the building and shut off the power. For now, adult standards KEIN, whose roots trace back to 1922, is silent.

✿ **Thanks to: Bill Dvorak, Wayne Heinen, Dave Schmidt, Al Tobia, Håkan Sundman and Radio-Info.com.**



America's Original
Boss Oldies Station™
1420 AM ♦ HEART OF THE BOSS VALLEY ♦ STOCKTON

GRAVEYARD DX ACHIEVEMENTS – UPDATE

Now that the complete cycle of Graveyard mileage records have appeared (see last Issue for 1490 kHz), it’s time for all GY DXers to make sure their total stations logged (whether a record-holder or not) are accounted-for in the ‘BIG LIST.’ It will be appearing in the next two or three months and as you know, we see it in print about as often as a total Lunar eclipse. Visit the official National Radio Club Graveyard DX Achievements Site at: <<http://www.nrcdxas.org/GYDXA/gytotals.html>> and see where you stand. Then, if you have any updates, let me know. Deadline: March 31, 2011.

When you send me your totals, follow the format seen in the above list. I hope to hear from you soon.

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Digest – West Bothell, WA 98012-8133

U.S./Canadian Loggings from Pacific/Mtn/Central Time Zones. All times ELT.


Just think, winter is more than half over. Before you know it, it will be spring, and you can go outside and fix all of your antennas that fell down in all the snow, ice and heavy rains.

Reporters

JJR-WI John J. Rieger, South Milwaukee, WI CC Radio2.
JDS-MN Jeff Steffes, Watertown, MN Kenwood R-2000, Drake R8, Quantum QX loop.
JW-CO John Wilkins, Wheat Ridge, CO Drake R-8, 4-foot box loop.
WH-CO Wayne Heinen, Aurora, CO Kiwa Loop, Drake R8B, E/W Flag, N/S Flag, Dual TG-1 Termination Gizmo w/DX Engineering RPA-1 preamp and Mini DXP5.

DX Loggings (All Times ELT)

720 WGN IL Chicago – 1/16 0902 – News into “WGN news time Eight-O-Two” followed by commercials, then back to news. (JDS-MN)
730 KWOA MN Worthington – 1/16 0906 – Out of news, “Here’s your news radio Seven-Thirty KWOA weather...” followed by *The Bill Miller Show*. (JDS-MN)
800 KQCV OK Oklahoma City – 1/20 0700 – Fair-loud! Over anything there! Local ID, religious programming. Quite unusual! (JJR-WI)

- CKLW ON Windsor – 1/17 1823 – Two male announcers talking hockey, into “The Fan Radio Network” followed by commercials, into weather, then Station ID: “AM 800 CKLW.” (JDS-MN)
- 810 WGY NY Schenectady – 1/17 1830 – News followed by commercials, into “WGY Traffic Center” followed by “WGY weather forecast,” including winter storm warning. (JDS-MN)
- 840 WHAS KY Louisville – 1/17 1840 – Out of weather report “Sky watch Eighty-Four WHAS,” followed by traffic report. (JDS-MN)
- 850 KFUE MO Clayton – 1/17 1857 – Religious programming, into “KFUE, Clayton-Missouri,” ending their broadcast day. (JDS-MN)
- 880 CKLQ MB Brandon – 1/18 1846 – Out of song *Need You Now* “from Q Country Eighty-Eighty. CKLQ.” (JDS-MN)
- 930 WBCK MI Battle Creek – 1/18 1859 – Country song by male artist, into “Country Ninety-Three WBCK, Battle Creek.” (JDS-MN)
- 1080 KYMN MN Northfield – 1/18 1942 – Song: *Hello It's Me*, followed by “In your backyard or in Scotland Yard, listen to KYMN.” (JDS-MN)
- 1110 KYKK NM Humble City – 1/13 1857 – Area news, weather, ads; recorded ToH non-legal ID by Laura Ingraham at 1859:50: “...the talk of Lea County, 11-10 KYKK Hobbs,” followed by ABC news. They've been using Hobbs in their ID's for a long time, instead of the legal Humble City. Fair in KFAB null. (JW-CO)
- KVTT TX Mineral Wells – 1/14 0940 – Segued older C&W songs, some rather obscure; no announcements until legal ID at 1004:45, followed by more music. Noted same ID again at 1102. On 50 kW transmitter now? Good signal at 1000 and weak but still readable at 1100 ELT, waaay past sunrise. (JW-CO)
- 1130 KRDU CA Dinuba – 1/14 2000 – Program notes and call ID's by man and woman in phase null of KWKH. (WH-CO)
- KWKH LA Shreveport – 1/14 2300 – “KHKW Shreveport” in break in play by play of Mudbugs Hockey. Lots of Heavy IBOC. (WH-CO)
-  1/18 1959 – Hockey starting line-up, Mississippi River Kings vs. Shreveport Mud Bugs, followed by “We'll be right back for the opening face-off on 1130 KWKH.” (JDS-MN)
- KBMR ND Bismarck – 1/15 0705 – Out of ABC news “Country 1130 KBMR” in KWKH phase null and IBOC hash. (WH-CO)
- 1150 KSAL KS Salina – 1/13 2200 – Out of local spots “News Radio 1150 KSAL Salina's New Talk and Sports Authority” to ABC News Local KNRV phase nulled. (WH-CO)
- 1200 WOAI TX San Antonio – 1/15 0530 – “This is coast to coast radio on Twelve-Hundred WOAI.” (JDS-MN)
- 1210 KEVT AZ Sahuarita – 1/18 0900 – Inspirational music; English/Spanish legal ID at 0902, with “Radio Vida” slogan and mentioning 10,000 watts. Fair with QRM from KHAT. (JW-CO)
- 1220 KDDR ND Oaks – 1/15 0544 – Out of country song by male artist; “Dakota Country Radio” followed by another country song. (JDS-MN)
- 1240 KBIZ IA Ottumwa – 1/15 0719 – Poor.-Station promo, calls, above then out. (JJR-WI)
- KXIT TX Dalhart – 1/13 0700 – Out of C&W music “KXIT AM and FM” up briefly. (WH-CO)
- 1250 WSSP WI Milwaukee – 1/15 0619 – Fade into station ID: “Milwaukee's sports radio Twelve-Fifty.” (JDS-MN)
- 1350 KCHK MN New Prague – 1/15 0705 – “You've been listening to IRN U.S. radio news,” into local commercials, followed by “KCHK weather forecast.” (JDS-MN)
- 1410 WIZM WI La Crosse – 1/15 0724 – “News talk Fourteen-Ten WIZM,” followed by listeners call in with home and garden questions. (JDS-MN)
- 1470 KGND OK Vinita – 1/17 0400 – Faded up for the TOH ID “AM 1470 WIZM La Crosse.” (WH-CO)
- 1470 KGND OK Vinita – 1/17 0400 – Faded up for the TOH ID “AM 1470 KGND Vinita,” by woman and gone. (WH-CO)
- KYYW TX Abilene – 1/20 0800 – Out of local Ag Talk “Broadcasting for over 70 years this is Abilene's oldest radio station, NewsTalk 1470 KYYW” to ABC News. (WH-CO)
- 1550 KLFJ MO Springfield – 1/15 1800 – Legal ID by male voice: “It's Branson information and more on your radio dial - KLFJ Springfield, Missouri,” followed by an ad for Branson Ticket Outlet & Welcome Center and other Branson info and ads. Fair. (JW-CO)

Nice assortment of loggings from our regular reporters. A correction: In 78-15, I neglected to include Jeff Steffes in the list of contributors. You'll see his logs in that issue labeled as (JDS-MN). Your editor regrets the omission.

Thanks to all this week's contributors. See you next time. (JDT-WA)

Domestic DX

Digest – East

Mike Brooker aum108@idirect.com

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Toronto, ON M6G 3X8 CANADA

U.S./Canadian Loggings from Eastern/Atlantic Time Zones. All times ELT.

REPORTERS

KK-VA Kraig Krist, Manassas – PL-310, NRD-545, Kiwa loop
PRM-NJ Paul Mount, Morganville - Honda AM/FM/XM car radio
MKB-ON Mike Brooker, Toronto – Grundig G5, Grundig YB-400PE, Sony SRF-39FP, Panasonic RF-2200 (receiver emeritus)

LOGGINGS

630 **WMAL DC Washington** – 1/18 1801 – Local news with "6-30 WMAL news" IDs. (KK-VA)
 690 **WELD WV Fisher** – 1/18 1802 – In mix over talk and Spanish stations with oldies, "WELD" jingle. (KK-VA)
 820 **WCPT IL Chicago** – 1/19 1736 – In WOSU/WWFD/WBAP mix with ID as "WCPT Chicago's progressive talk" into news. (KK-VA)
WWFD MD Frederick – 1/19 1736 – In mix with talk show, station website promo, "Fed talk on Federal News Radio and federalnewsradio.com." (KK-VA)
WOSU OH Columbus – 1/19 1736 – In mix with WCPT, WWFD and WBAP with NPR programs, "You're listening to 'All Things Considered' on NPR news," ID by woman, "you're listening to WOSU." (KK-VA)
WBAP TX Fort Worth – 1/19 1736 – In WCPT/WOSU/WWFD mix with station promo: "From the heart of Texas, 8-20 AM WBAP." (KK-VA)
 1190 **WSDE NY Cobleskill** – 1/21 1741 – Poking through WOWO/WLIB mix with male DJ patter "...hey wow...right here on WSDE" into "American Woman" by the Guess Who, then lost to WOWO. (MKB-ON)
 1230 **WBVP PA Beaver Falls** – 1/18 0812 – Over WECK groundwave with local news, Smokey Bear wildfire prevention PSA, "now the Beaver Valley forecast for 1230 WBVP and 1460 WMBA..." into local weather. (MKB-ON)
 1240 **WTPS VA Petersburg** – 1/14 0535 – In mix with oldies, station promo "... in Central Virginia...WTPS..." (KK-VA)
 1250 **WLEM PA Emporium** – 1/18 1733 – In WDDZ/WKDL mix with oldies, local ads for L&M Lumber and Giant Eagle "... on main street in Ridgway...", "12-50 WLEM" ID. (KK-VA)
WDVA VA Danville - 1/20 1906 – Gospel songs in mix with WDDZ, woman mentioning "Radio Ministry...", local weather with ID as "your WDVA forecast..." (KK-VA)
WKDL VA Warrenton - 1/18 1733 – In mix with WDDZ and WLEM with ad for Church of Jesus Christ, ID mentioning "... Culpepper, WKDL Warrenton/Manassas..." (KK-VA)
 1260 **WWRC DC Washington** – 1/18 1729 – In mix with other talk station, "12-60 WRC" slogan into news. (KK-VA)
 1290 **WDZY VA Colonial Heights** – 1/20 1704 – Presumed over CJBK with bubblegum rock (i.e. music that might appeal to pre-teens and middle-schoolers), non-ID slogan by teenage girl (or pre-pubertal boy), "your music your way, all the way... on Radio Disney". (MKB-ON)



1300 WPNH NH Plymouth – 1/2 1550 – Mostly atop with some kind of MYL 'American Songbook' format, frequent IDs like "1240 and 1300" less frequent with call letters (WFTN and WPNH). 1300 new to me; heard 1240 on a DX test years ago. (PRM-NJ)

1360 WMNY PA McKeesport – 1/17 1658 – Over WYOS or WSAI sports talk with ad for Pittsburgh Technology Council, ToH ID: "Pittsburgh's station for business and financial news all day...AM 1360 WMNY" into business news, leading off with Steve Jobs' taking medical leave of absence. (MKB-ON)



1570 WNDA IN New Albany – 1/17 1757 – Briefly on top of frequency with "Cool 1570" jingle into "Cracklin' Rosie" by Neil Diamond, ToH ID: "more oldies all day...1570 WNDA New Albany," then lost to gospel station. (MKB-ON)

Musings of the Members

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Thoughts from NRC members. Local time per Muse.

All opinions expressed are those of the individual writers – they do not necessarily reflect those of the editors, publishers, or the National Radio Club, Inc.

Here we go with yet another MUSINGS column! Deadlines are Friday. Here we go:

John Malicky – 995 Shadycrest Drive – Pittsburgh, PA 15216

Happy New Years and hello to all! The long and not so welcome arrival, for sports fans anyway, is the switch of ESPN-1250 (WEAE) to WBGW-970 moving Fox Sports out and Radio Disney moving from WWCS-540 to 1250 as of 1/1 with new calls. As reported in DX NEWS, no buyer could be found for 1250 which ironically shares the same building space with WWCS and WTAE-TV 4. And the staff that week, except for CE Tom Major, was fired and ESPN National programming was on the air. With that, Penn State Football and Basketball moved to KQV-1410, Duquesne Duke basketball moved to WPEB 104.7 while 970 carries WV Football/Basketball and has been promoting the move of ESPN to 970. Also, moving on up is KDKA Radio to Greentree from Gateway Center One when it opened in 1956. The move outside the city is/was CBS Radio's plan to move their stations out of the city to under one roof as in this case joining KDKA FM 93.7, WZPT 100.7 and WDDY 107.9. While visiting Detroit in May, 90 year old (as is KDKA) WWJ-950 has only WZLH 98.7 sharing space while the other CBS stations like WXYT-1270/97.1 is in a 2nd location in Farmington while a 3rd pair, WYCD 99.5 and WOMC 104.3 is in Ferndale, while WWJ is in Southfield! On Thanksgiving Day, I ran the 9 mile 101 year old "Run For The Diamonds" race in Berwick, PA which is broadcast 'live' on WHLM-930 Bloomsburg for the past 8 years by Jim Doyle, Larry Hooper and owner Joe Reilly. It was a chance to say hello to a well organized station. Also, I hope all of you enjoyed the 2 issue article "Oh Rochester" as I did not intend for it to be that long. Even after proofreading, 2 corrections should be noted, one – the NRC has held conventions for 10 years, not 9, as 8 were in the Buffalo area. the 9th in Batavia (2004) with the most recent in Rochester, while in Italian, 'goodbye' is spelled "Ciao" not "chao" though pronounced "chow." There were probably a few more corrections but "c'est la vie"! Thanks to Scott Fybus, Jerry Bond, Jim Renfrew and Mark Jones for their input along with updates from stations visited. In DX, I'm zero for 10 regarding verifications with reports, in no specific order, to: WKZK-1600, WYSL-1040, WHGT-1590, WNCA-1570, WCSL-1590, WMOB-1360, WCHV-1260, WLEM-1250, WFIS-1600, and WIXE-1190. Recent catches in December include WVLZ-1180, WMIR-1200, WKGX-1080, WKJK-1080, WGNZ-1110, and WQRT-1160. On 11/14, while waiting for my cousin's son at a wrestling tournament, I stopped and visited WKZV-1110, a daytime only operation with country music and met DJ Randy Allum and ex WWVA personality Bob Berry whom I met 23 years ago en-route to NRC Lima in '87!! Finally, for those who enjoy old tube radio or photos, through my other club PARS (Pittsburgh Antique Radio Society), from designer/ member Dave Krauter,, his "Antique Radio (2011) Wall Calendar" is available at www.lulu.com (search doe 'PARS Calendar', \$14 plus s/h). Thats all folks, best to all of you in 2011 and enjoy your retirement and internet station Dave! (And thanks for writing BIG John, helped a lot – DWS.)

CMMC DX-PEDITION

Modern Marconis Make Waves at WCC Museum

Bruce Conti

On January 8, the Chatham Marconi Maritime Center (CMMC) museum hosted a DXpedition at the historic WCC Marconi Wireless site in Chatham, Cape Cod, Massachusetts. Radio enthusiasts were given a tour of the museum, then setup antennas and receivers on the site for an evening of transatlantic AM broadcast DXing. If watching from above, radio pioneer Guglielmo Marconi must have been delighted. After all it was he who sent the first ever transatlantic radio communication in the United States from a nearby Cape Cod site, and then established radio station WCC in Chatham. It became known as the world's greatest maritime wireless communications facility, and is considered the birthplace of all the wireless devices we use today.

In the Beginning

It was 110 years ago when Marconi completed the first transatlantic wireless communication, taking place between England and Signal Hill, Newfoundland, commemorated by the now infamous Newfie DXpeditions which by the way will be celebrating its 20th anniversary this year. In 1903 Marconi made the first wireless two-way communications between England and Wellfleet on Cape Cod, a U.S. mainland site selected specifically for its proximity to Europe. Marconi later envisioned a network of wireless communication stations for ships at sea, an idea which ultimately proved its worth in 1912 when over 700 people aboard the sinking Titanic were saved after an S.O.S. transmitted from the ship's Marconi Room alerted rescuers. In 1914 WCC Chatham replaced Wellfleet as part of the network of Marconi land-based wireless radio stations that would link North America, Europe, Japan, and voyagers across the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. However WCC "Wireless Cape Cod" was to take on a much more significant place in history.



One of the remaining Marconi Wireless antenna towers overlooking Ryder's Cove.

Initially WCC was primarily a monitoring station, but operators could transmit via remote control from another site in Marion, Massachusetts. The WCC rhombic antennas were said to have been designed by H.H. Beverage, developer of the Beverage wave guide antenna still popular among DXers today.

The WCC site was taken over by the U.S. Navy during both World Wars. Most notably during World War II after the Enigma code was broken, Navy operators at WCC were able to receive and decode the enciphered signals from the German high command and otherwise nearly undetectable submerged U-boats, which combined with direction-finding gave Allied forces the ability to pinpoint their positions. WCC was sold to RCA and maintained as a maritime communications station under the name "Radiomarine Corporation of America." By the 1950s WCC was arguably the busiest wireless communications station in the western hemisphere, operating transmitters from longwave to the shortwave marine bands. WCC history also extends beyond the oceans, holding a role in aeronautics including communications with Charles Lindbergh, Amelia Earhart, and the last known communication with the Hindenburg before its fiery demise.

With the breakup of RCA in 1998, WCC became part of MCI. By 1993 WCC was no longer a manned station, now under remote control by sister station KPH in California. WCC operated at 436 kHz longwave, KPH at 426 kHz, and both monitored the international calling and distress frequency of 500 kHz. In 1994 the site was added to the National Register of Historic Places. WCC went off the air in 1997 as a victim of downsizing and technological advancements. Although the town of Chatham purchased the property in 1999, the site remained dormant until the newly organized CMMC came to the rescue in 2002.

The CMMC Mission

The CMMC now leases the Marconi site from the town, and will be opening a museum in the restored WCC operations building early this summer. Additionally the WCC Amateur Radio Association operates WA1WCC from a corner of the building. The museum was opened to the

local community briefly last August for a sneak preview. The CMMC has since been working hard in preparation for the grand opening.

"We're making it more interactive, not just a display of antiques," said CMMC Vice President Frank Messina KB1UZZ. "We're working with school systems to help educate the teachers bringing the kids here, to develop an interest in what happened here. We try to explain the whole concept of communication."

In addition to the many artifacts on display, there's a Morse code kiosk with a practice key, and a mini-theater for viewing a short film narrated by Walter Cronkite. The CMMC collaborates with schools to develop curriculum within the guidelines of the Massachusetts "Science Technology Engineering Math" (STEM) program. In addition the WA1WCC club offers amateur radio operator license courses. Many of the poles and towers that once supported the rhombic antennas are still standing. The CMMC and WA1WCC hope to get a rhombic back up and operating. "WCC, that was it," said CMMC Board Member Rob Leiden K1UI. "It was the only signal that could be heard."

The DXpeditioners

Rob Leiden and Frank Messina were kind enough to open the operations building to the CapeDX group for a museum tour followed by an evening of transatlantic AM broadcast DXing in January. CapeDX members Chris Black N1CP, Mark Connelly WA1ION, Marc DeLorenzo, Steve Wood, and I setup our modern receive stations, a Drake R8, Japan Radio NRD 535, an Excalibur and two Perseus SDR receivers to capture the action across the AM broadcast band. Three terminated broadband loop antennas were erected for the event, aimed northeast, east, and southeast. A number of community CMMC members came to watch and learn more about the hobby.

Initially we became worried that the event would be a bust, due to interference from the CQX beacon on 279 kHz at nearby Chatham Airport. The CW signal from CQX was causing the entire noise floor to pulse with Morse code on our SDR spectrum analyzer displays. However as sunset approached the interference was overtaken by rising signal levels and we were soon rewarded for our efforts as a number of new finds were discovered. For Marc DeLorenzo, it was a first to hear Sudan on mediumwave. "Country number 104 heard from Cape Cod," reported Marc, "And a major thrill!" "It was a great experience being able to DX from this site," said Steve Wood. "I have never heard transatlantics that clear and loud from my home and I'm less than 5 miles from CMMC."

CMMC DXpedition Logbook

Full details of selected logbook entries are followed by a complete frequency list sorted by country which includes many of the more commonly received signals reported in the *International DX Digest*. It was a team effort. Because all of us were essentially receiving the same signals within the same 1900-2300 time frame, it only made sense to spare you from multiple listings of "Radio Nacional España, Informativos," and so on. (41 frequencies for Spain!) Of particular interest are the logs of 765 Iran with Switzerland off the air, and 1314 UAE which for many of us was a first. All times are UTC, January 8, 2011.

- 531 **Chaîne 1, El Ain Beida, Algeria**, at 2258 excellent; ads, contemporary instrumental, alternating woman and man with promo/ID into time marker and news, parallel also excellent 549 kHz.
- 531 **RNE Spain**, at 2200 top of the hour pips and theme music, "Radio Nacional de España, Informativos." Fair under Algeria.
- 590 **CMHI R.Rebelde, Santa Clara, Cuba**, at 2301 parallel 560, 600 with 9-note Rebelde sounder, Spanish talk; mixed with VOXM and WEZE.
- 595 **SNRT Oujda, Morocco**, at 2302 man and woman in Arabic; poor.
- 639 **Cesky rozhlas, Liblice, Czech Republic**, at 2100 Slavic news/talk by woman; poor, over co-channel Spain.
- 657 **Rai Radiouno, Italy**, at 2259 national anthem at apparent sign off per EMWG.
- 675 **Libyan Jamahiriya, Benghazi, Libya**, at 2202 Arabic music; in 680 WRKO slop.
- 693 **VOR Zehlendorf, Germany**, at 2202 Russian talk; briefly atop UK and Spain.
- 702 **RMC Info, Le Col de la Madonne, France**, at 2200 pips, French talk, "Ici Radio Chine International." Fair signal.
- 730 **HJCU Cadena Melodia, Bogotá, Colombia**, at 2302 an old-fashioned vocal, "Melodia" ID; over CKAC.
- 765 **IRIB Sarasary, Chahbahar, Iran**, at 2156 music parallel Sarasary streaming audio, then Koran parallel 837 kHz. A new log since co-channel Switzerland went dark.

- 783 **MDR Info, Leipzig-Wiederau, Germany**, at 2300 fair, over unidentified stations; time marker and fanfare, "MDR Info..."
- 810 **ZNS3 Freeport, Bahamas**, at 2300 non-stop street-band music - a blend of calypso and Dixieland jazz; good, dominant.
- 873 **AFN Frankfurt, Germany**, at 2302 parallel 1107 kHz with Led Zeppelin rock vocal; to good peak over presumed co-channel Spain.
- 890.1 **HIPJ R.Continental, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic**, at 2300 good carrier but no audio.
- 909 **BBC Radio 5, United Kingdom**, at 2200 to good peak with "This is BBC Radio 5 Live" into news.
- 917 **R.Gotel, Yola, Nigeria**, at 2202 carrier with het from 918 kHz, heard a man in an unidentified African sounding language.
- 918 **R.Slovenija, Ljubljana-Domzale, Slovenia**, at 2200 over a weak 917 Nigeria het; distinctive time marker into theme music with two Radio Slovenija IDs.
- 950.042 **YVKG R.Popular, Caracas, Venezuela**, at 2300 carrier only, no audio.
- 972 **NDR Info, Hamburg, Germany**, at 2200 bits of German news by woman; under a huge Libya signal.
- 1035 **R.Clube, Belmonte, Portugal**, at 2300 a female version of B.J. Thomas 1969 hit "Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head," then "San Francisco" by Scott McKenzie from 1967, Star FM mention by man, Portuguese talk by woman, Star FM jingle, and "Harvest Moon" by Neil Young; fair to good.
- 1053 **COPE Spain**, at 2201 fast Spanish talk; atop UK and the growl of off-frequency signals at 1053.103 from Libya and an unidentified 1053.047 kHz.
- 1062 **Rai Radiouno, Italy**, at 2158 poor with synchro echo; talk in Italian, time marker into news on the hour.
- 1089 **Radio Rossii, Tbilisskaya, Russia**, at 2258 good to fade; classical music, man and woman in Russian with Rossii mentions.
- 1089 **TalkSport, United Kingdom**, at 2202 now coming up over Russia, reverberated TalkSport ID, promo, scores, "Middlesbrough suffered a defeat."
- 1134 **Glas Hrvatske, Zadar, Croatia**, at 2100 excellent with pop music fading into signature long pips on the hour, fanfare with Hrvatske Radio ID.
- 1179 **SER Radio Valencia, Valencia, Spain**, at 2153 fair with local ID (AM & FM) and apparent ad or promo in Spanish. Thanks to Henrik Klemetz for help via Real DX.
- 1215 **Voice of Russia, Bolshakovo, Kaliningrad**, at 2058 "This is the Voice of Russia World Service," frequencies and web site, "Great Gate of Kiev" bells interval signal, then national anthem at 2100 UTC. Good signal, well over Absolute Radio, United Kingdom.
- 1296 **SNBC Reiba, Sudan**, at 2050 noted African music parallel 7200 kHz, trading places atop the frequency with co-channel Spain.
- 1314 **R.Farda, Al Dhabbaya, United Arab Emirates**, at 2157 fanfare, Radio Farda ID, into news with a sound bite from Obama in English.
- 1323 **Voice of Russia, Wachenbrunn, Germany**, at 2100 French news/talk by man and woman, emphasis music.
- 1394.8 **TransWorld Radio, Fllakë, Albania**, at 2100 one cycle of TWR interval signal, then Polish program per EMWG.
- 1413 **RNE5 Spain**, at 2059 good with a nostalgic vocal, time marker, fanfare, "Radio Nacional de España, Informativos."
- 1422 **Deutschlandfunk, Heusweiler, Germany**, at 2040 over presumed Algeria; woman in German parallel 6190 kHz.
- 1431 **Radio 3/R.Kultura, Kopani, Ukraine**, at 2058 fair over co-channel Djibouti; ethnic vocal, announcement, time marker, and sign-off leaving Radio Sawa in clear.
- 1440 **RTL Marnach, Luxembourg**, at 2100 intro music based on variations of 6-note interval signal, French ID, "Ici Radio Chine International," over co-channel WRED and WVEI.
- 1476 **Euskadi Irratia, San Sebastian, Spain**, at 2100 possible Basque talk by woman; poor over growl from an unidentified off-frequency 1476.268 kHz signal.
- 1530 **VOA São Tomé e Príncipe**, at 2200 "This is the Voice of America, Washington DC, signing off," and info on how to obtain more information about times and frequencies. Very good signal.
- 1548 **Voice of Russia, Grigoriopol, Moldova**, at 2102 VOR program in Serbian per EMWG.
- 1557 **France Info, Fontbonne, France**, at 2100 parallel 1206, 1242, and 1494 kHz with France Info fanfare music into news.

Country List

43 radio countries heard:

Albania: 1394.8
Algeria: 531, 549, 981, 1422
Angola: 1088
Bahamas: 810
Belgium: 1125
Brazil: 700, 740, 760, 1100, 1220
British Virgin Islands: 780
Canary Islands/Spain: 621, 720, 747, 837, 1179
Colombia: 650, 730, 760, 770
Croatia: 1134
Cuba: 530, 560, 570, 600, 610, 640, 670, 690, 710, 750, 770, 790, 840, 860, 870, 900, 950, 960, 1180
Czech Republic: 639
Djibouti: 1431
Dominican Republic: 890.1
Egypt: 774
France: 603, 702, 711, 792, 837, 864, 945, 1206, 1242, 1377, 1467, 1494, 1557
Germany: 693, 756, 783, 873, 972, 1107, 1269, 1323, 1422
Haiti: 840
Iran: 765, 837, 936, 1080
Italy: 657, 1062
Kaliningrad: 1215
Kuwait: 1548
Libya: 675, 972, 1053.1, 1251, 1449
Luxembourg: 1440
Mauritania: 783
Moldova: 1548
Morocco: 595, 612, 999
Netherlands: 747
Netherlands Antilles: 800
Nigeria: 917
Portugal: 594, 720, 1035
Puerto Rico: 580, 600, 630
Russia: 1089
São Tomé: 1530
Saudi Arabia: 1521
Slovenia: 918
Spain: 531, 558, 567, 576, 585, 639, 648, 657, 684, 729, 738, 774, 783, 792, 801, 855, 864, 882, 936, 963, 999, 1026, 1044, 1053, 1080, 1098, 1107, 1116, 1125, 1134, 1143, 1152, 1179, 1215, 1296, 1305, 1314, 1413, 1476, 1485, 1503
St. Kitts & Nevis: 555, 820
Sudan: 1296
Ukraine: 1431
United Arab Emirates: 1314
United Kingdom: 693, 882, 909, 1053, 1089, 1215, 1458
Venezuela: 720, 750, 950



Frank Messina KB1UZZ describes a diorama of the old WCC site to Steve Wood and Marc DeLorenzo.



It was an awesome experience to be receiving transatlantic signals under the shadow of Marconi. Visit www.chathammarconi.org to learn more about CMMC. Consider supporting the museum and ongoing education programs by becoming a member. The CMMC DXpedition will also be covered in the April 2011 edition of *Popular Communications* magazine. 73 and Good DX!

Rob Leiden K1UI shows a map of the rhombic antenna farm that once spread across the Marconi Wireless campus.

From the NRC/IRCA DX TESTS COMMITTEE: Tests for February 2011

Paul Walker reports three DX tests scheduled for February:

Saturday February 12 – At precisely 0100 and 0200 CST (0200 and 0300 ELT): **KHMO 1070 Hannibal, MO** will test with morse code, sweep tones and voice announcements for 5 minutes at the top of the first hour with its 5-kW/3-tower day pattern and 5 minutes at the top of the second hour at its 1-kW/6-tower night power.

Saturday February 12 – From 0300 to 0400 CST (0400-0500 ELT): **WLIQ 1530 Quincy, IL** will test for 20 minutes using morse code, sweep tones, voice announcement, special music, sound bites, etc., at its 1400-watt non-directional day power, then for 20 minutes at its 290-watt non directional “critical hours” power, and then for the final 20 minutes it will test at its once-proposed 3-watt non-directional night power.

Saturday February 19 – From 0100 to 0200 CST (0300-0400 ELT) **WLRB 1510 Macomb, IL** will test for the first 30 minutes using morse code, sweep tones, voice announcement, special music, sound bites, etc., at its 1-kW non-directional day power and for the final 30 minutes with much the same content at its 250-watt non-directional “critical hours” power.

Snail-mail QSLs: Send a self addressed stamped envelope to the Chief Engineer at the following address:

Gary Glaenzer
c/o (Put the name of the station whose DX test your are reporting on this line)
325 East Douglas Avenue
Jacksonville, IL 62650

Tapes or CDs will be accepted along with written reports but **MUST** be cued up to the point of where the best reception is. If sending in a report by mail, you **MUST** include a return, self addressed, stamped envelope. The reports are being sent to the engineer’s home address, not the station. So please be patient, as Mr. Glaenzer is the Chief Engineer for 16 radio stations in Missouri and Illinois.

E-QSLs are available - Send to the engineer at <glaenzer@frontier.com> with both the station call letters and the words "DX test" in the subject line, as follows:

KHMO DX Test
WLIQ DX Test
WLRB DX Test

Finally, we ask that you please not telephone any of the stations or the engineer during the test. No one will be at the stations during the tests - everything is being done remotely by phone control.

Of course, be sure to report any catches to the DX lists, to club bulletins, or to any of your regular communication channels. And please help the cause by forwarding this test information far and wide, and - if you can – by organizing a test of your own!

With thanks to Paul for arranging and Gary for running.

Saul Chernos
IRCA-NRC DX Test Committee

NOAA Space Weather Outlook

Issued January 18 – For the period January 19-February 14, 2011

Solar activity is expected to be at very low levels with a chance for low levels during the forecast period.

No proton events are expected at geosynchronous orbit.

The greater than 2 MeV electron flux at geosynchronous orbit is expected to be below threshold at the beginning of the forecast period. High levels are expected on 4-9 February. Flux is then expected to decrease below threshold through 14 February.

Geomagnetic field activity is expected to be at quiet to unsettled levels during 19-20 January due to a recurrent CH HSS. Recurrent coronal hole high speed streams are also expected on 2-4 February and on 9-10 February, bringing predominantly unsettled conditions during these time frames. Mostly quiet levels are expected otherwise.

(From <http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/ftpdir/weekly/WKHF.txt>)

National Radio Club

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