



Welcome to the  
**Fort Wayne DX Convention**  
DecalcoMania - IRCA - NRC - WTFDA

**July 10-12, 2015**

## **Welcome to Fort Wayne!**

*This isn't quite my hometown, but I've been coming here to visit the in-laws for so long that Fort Wayne feels almost like home to me. I'm excited to share the city's famed Hoosier hospitality with everyone! If there's anything Lisa and I can do to help make your stay here better, don't hesitate to ask me. You can also call or text either of us - 585-721-2596 (Scott) or 585-721-3041 (Lisa). Enjoy your visit to WOWO-land!*

-Scott Fybush, convention host

### **FRIDAY JULY 10**

9:30 AM – Convention room opens, registration opens. The convention room will be open all day for anyone interested in hanging out.

10:15 AM – Gather in front of Hall's main lobby for a caravan to the optional tour of Sweetwater

**10:30 AM – TOUR:** Sweetwater, 5501 US 30 West

Sweetwater is a Fort Wayne-based music and electronics behemoth that started in the 1970s as a mobile recording studio in a van. It's now one of Fort Wayne's biggest employers, and we've arranged a special tour of its state-of-the-art recording studios, warehouse and retail location on US 30 just a few minutes from the hotel. (There's an excellent café there as well, if you're feeling hungry.)

**12:30 PM - EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS, PART I**

(Pizza and drinks will be provided during the sessions)

Mark Durenberger: Desert DXpeditions 2014-2015

Neil Kazaross on antennas

"NUTS" and volts":

Brian May TV data, David Yocis request: Manipulating the SDR,

Mike Lantz on Miami Pirates

**3 PM - STATION TOURS**

(Gather at the front entrance of Hall's Guesthouse and we will form a caravan for anyone interested)

**Stop 1: WLDE 101.7 transmitter site, 7400 Parrot Road**

WLDE-FM built this new tower in 2014 to replace its longtime site at 424 Reed Road, its former studio location (and still the tower site of WFCV 1090). Chief engineer Jamie Till will show us the station's new transmitter and the new tower.

**Stop 2: WLDE 101.7/WAJI 95.1 studios, 347 W. Berry Street, 6th floor**

Program director Dan Kennedy will show us the Sarkes Tarzian studios. WAJI is "95.1 Best FM," playing hot AC. WLDE is "Fun 101.7," playing classic hits. These studios are three blocks from Parkview Field.

*While you're downtown, here's one more landmark to check out: from the mid-1970s until the mid-1990s, WOWO's studios were located at 203 W. Wayne, at the corner of Wayne and Harrison. The "World Famous WOWO Fire Escape" still hangs from the back of the building and can be*

*easily seen from the parking lot at Harrison and Washington. Then look across Harrison to the building that now houses the Visitor Center – that's the former 925 W. Washington, the previous home of WOWO from the 1940s until the 1970s.*

If you are going on the tours but not the ballgame, or the ballgame but not the tours, please be sure you have a ride to get you where you want to be!

**5:30 PM – Gates open at Parkview Field (Ewing and Brackenridge Streets)**

If you've reserved a ticket for the Fort Wayne TinCaps game, you'll find your ticket and wristband in your registration packet. The wristband admits you to the lounge on the suite level (use the elevator behind home plate), where a buffet dinner will be served from 6-7:30 PM. First pitch is at 7:05 PM. You can hang out in the lounge all night, or come back downstairs to watch the game from your seat behind home plate in section 108.

**After the Game – Late Night Radio Chat**

Want the inside scoop on what's happening in the radio industry? Your convention host Scott Fybush will be hanging out in the meeting room to talk about the latest trends in engineering and the business as a whole.

**SATURDAY JULY 11**

**9 AM - IRCA business meeting**

**9:30 AM - EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS, PART II**

Nick Hall-Patch/Bill Whitacre: Parallel DXPeditions

Carl Luetzelschwab: Solar impact on Propagation

Hall-Patch, Luetzelschwab, Mark Durenberger: Noise reduction

**1 PM - FUN TOUR - DeBrand Chocolate factory, 10105 Auburn Park Road**

Meet Lisa outside the hotel if you're interested in joining her for a visit to Fort Wayne's delicious DeBrand Chocolate, which has grown into one of the nation's premiere specialty chocolatiers. Tours are \$5 and include a tasting.

**-or-**

12:15 PM – Gather outside Hall's to form a caravan to lunch and...

**1:45 PM – Outside stop at WOWO transmitter site, US 24 Roanoke**

We can get a look at Fort Wayne's most famous AM facility, the three towers of 50,000-watt (by day, at least) WOWO 1190, before heading off to our next stop

**2:30 PM - STATION TOUR - Adams Radio Group, 2000 Lower Huntington Road**

The Adams Radio Group recently purchased and reconfigured two Fort Wayne radio clusters, combining its stations in the facility on Lower Huntington Road that has been the WGL 1250 transmitter site since the 1940s and has been the WGL studios since 1972. The facility is now home to one AM transmitter and studios for two AM stations (WGL 1250 and WLYV 1450) along with six FM stations (WBTU 93.3, WXKE 96.3, W245CA "B96.9", W277AK "Great Country 103.3," WWFW 103.9, WJFX 107.9).

#### **4 PM - STATION TOUR - WOWO/Federated Media**

The facility at 2915 Maples Road was originally constructed in 1947 as the transmitter site of WKJG 1380. It is still the WKJG transmitter site, and now also houses studios for all of Federated Media's stations in the market, including the legendary WOWO 1190 and its simulcast, WOWO-FM 92.3, as well as WKJG (ESPN Radio 1380)/WFGA (ESPN Radio 106.7), top-40 WMEE (97.3), rock WBYR (98.9 the Bear) and country WQHK (K105).

6 PM - Group photo outside Hall's Guesthouse main entrance; then cocktail hour begins

#### **6:30 PM - BANQUET AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS**

As radio approaches its centennial, our keynote speaker this year will take us back to the earliest days of radio listening in Fort Wayne. Betty Stein is a prominent local resident and columnist for the Fort Wayne News-Sentinel. Born nine years before WOWO even signed on the air, she'll share her memories of radio and television, including some of her own early appearances on WOWO and her recollections of Fort Wayne's pioneering broadcast personalities. Mrs. Stein received an honorary Ph.D. last year from the University of St. Francis in Fort Wayne, where she earned her master's degree. She still works one day a week at Memorial Park Middle School. (In addition to her other accomplishments, she also just happens to be Lisa's grandmother.)

**8:30 PM - NRC business meeting**

**9 PM - AUCTION**

### **SUNDAY JULY 12**

**10:30 AM - The Great DX Quiz**

Test your radio (and TV) recall with our annual brain-bender. Can you beat Doug Smith or Frank Merrill? It's all in good fun, and you'll learn some area broadcast trivia, too.

**12:00 PM - Convention room closes**

#### *Special Thanks to:*

Lisa Fybush – Blaine Thompson – Mark Durenberger and his educational panelists – Dawn and the Don Hall's Guesthouse staff  
- Phil Bytheway – Paul Swearingen – Dick Truax – Fort Wayne  
TinCaps – Sweetwater Sound – Federated Media – Rob  
Mackenzie, Adams Radio Group – Jamie Till and Dan Kennedy,  
WAJI/WLDE – Dan Swartz, Wunderkammer – Visit Fort Wayne –  
Three Rivers Festival – Fort Wayne Children's Zoo – Betty Stein –  
DeBrand Chocolates – Fran and Irv Adler

## DIRECTIONS TO TOURS

**Sweetwater:** Turn left out of the Guesthouse parking lot on Washington Center Road. Turn left again on Lima Road (SR 3), then make an immediate right to I-69 south. Go south one exit on I-69 to exit 309B, US 30 west. Sweetwater is on your left about  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile ahead, with entrance on Kroemer Road. To return to the Guesthouse, turn left on Kroemer and then right on US 30 east. Follow I-69 north one exit to Lima Road north, exit 311B. Turn right on Washington Center Rd.

**Hotel to WLDE transmitter (9 miles, 20 minutes):** Turn right out of the Guesthouse parking lot on Washington Center Road. Go under I-69 (watch the speed trap!) and take a right at the major intersection with Coldwater Road. Then turn left on Coliseum Boulevard (SR 930). Follow Coliseum five miles to Lake Avenue. Turn right on Lake and go just over a mile to Maplecrest Road. Turn right and go over the Maumee River bridge. Turn left immediately after the bridge on Parrott Road. The WLDE site is on your right.

**WLDE transmitter to downtown Fort Wayne:** Turn left on Parrott Road, then left again on Maplecrest, over the bridge and right on SR 930 west. Continue straight as it becomes Washington Boulevard (do not take the exit ramp to SR 930/North Coliseum Blvd) and head into downtown, approximately 2 miles ahead. *To go to the WLDE/WAJI studios, 347 W. Berry Street*, turn right on Calhoun Street and then left on Berry Street. WAJI parking is on the left, before the Ewing intersection. Take the elevator to the sixth floor. *To go directly to Parkview Field*, turn left on Calhoun Street and then left on Brackenridge Street. Parking lots are on your left (\$4 per car). *To go from WLDE/WAJI to Parkview Field*, turn left on Berry and left again on Ewing. The ballpark is three blocks south on Ewing. If you can't find street parking, turn left on Brackenridge Street and park in a lot (\$4 per car).

**Hotel to Parkview Field (5 miles, 14 minutes):** Turn left on Washington Center, then left again on Lima Rd., which becomes US 27 south after it crosses I-69. Follow US 27 south approximately five miles as it becomes Clinton Street into downtown Fort Wayne. (Expect some Festival traffic!) Turn left on Washington Blvd. and go past the ballpark to Ewing Street. Turn left on Ewing and then left again to W. Brackenridge. Parking lots are on your right (\$4 per car).

**Hotel to WOWO transmitter (17 miles, 20 minutes):** Follow the directions above to I-69 south. Exit on US 24 west, exit 302. Follow US 24 west approximately 6 miles until you see the three WOWO towers on your left. Continue past the towers until you can make a U-turn. Park on the road by the fence.

**Hotel to WGL/Adams Radio Group, 2000 Lower Huntington Road (11 miles, 20 minutes):** Turn left out of the Guesthouse parking lot on Washington Center Road. Follow Washington Center west approximately 2 miles to Huguenard Road. Turn left and follow Huguenard as it becomes Hillegas Road (past the TV towers) and then Ardmore Avenue. Turn left on Lower Huntington Road. WGL is ahead on your left.

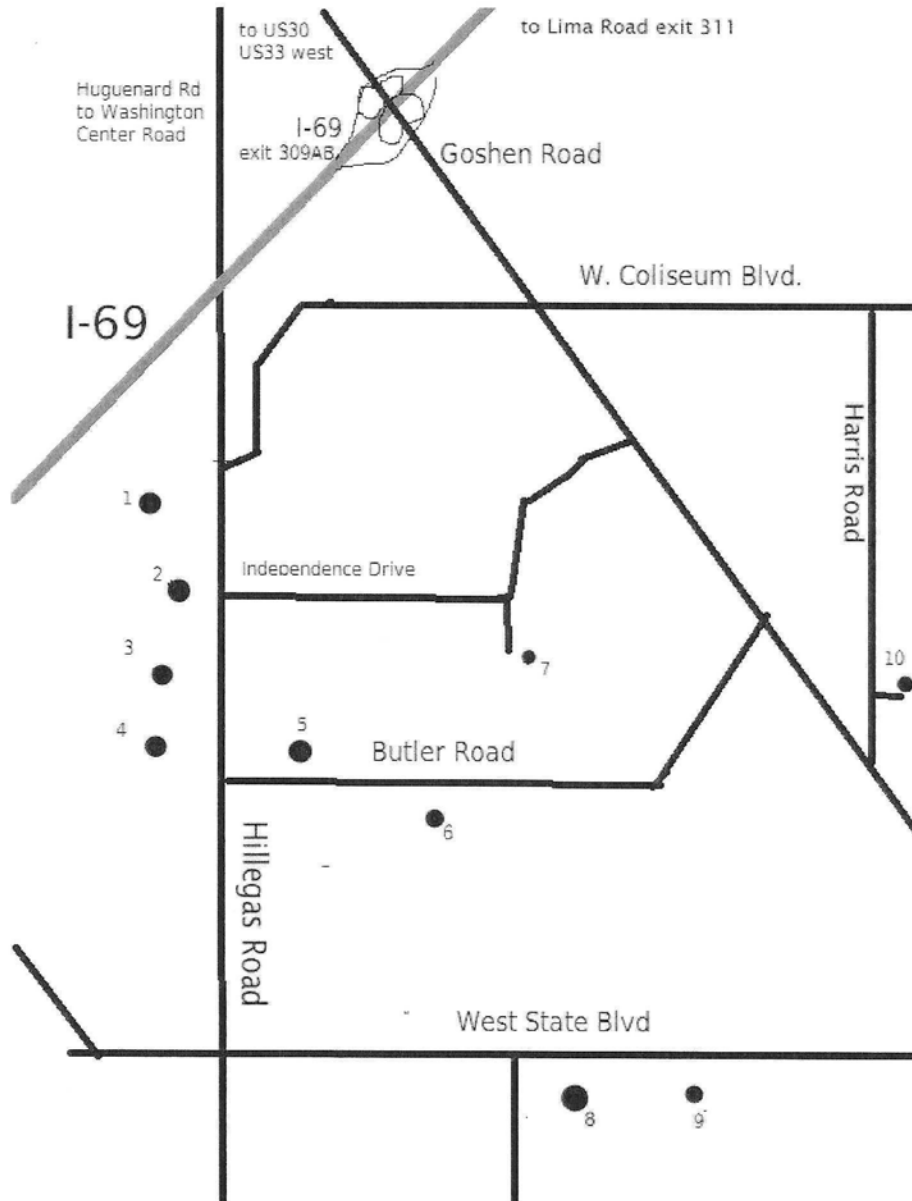
**WOWO transmitter to WGL/Adams Radio Group, 2000 Lower Huntington Road (12.6 miles, 18 minutes):** Turn right out of WOWO and follow US 24 east for six miles to Liberty Mills Road. Turn right and continue along Ellison Road, which becomes Yohne Road after crossing I-69. Turn right on Smith Road, then left on Lower Huntington Road. WGL will be one mile ahead on your left (watch for the three AM 1250 towers!)

**WGL/Adams Radio Group to WOWO/Federated Media, 2915 Maples Road:** Turn left out of WGL. Follow Lower Huntington Road east over the river, then turn right on Tillman Road. Follow Tillman east for just under a mile, then turn right on US 27. Maples Road is on your left just over a mile south. Park in the rear parking lot of WOWO.

**WOWO to Guesthouse (11 miles, 20 minutes):** Turn right on Maples Road and right again on US 27 north. Continue to follow US 27 north as it becomes Lafayette Street into and through downtown Fort Wayne. Stay left to continue on US 27 north (Lima Road) past I-69 to the next right on Washington Center Road. The Guesthouse will be on your right.

## The Hillegas Road Tower Farm

Look southeast from Don Hall's Guesthouse – or over from just about anywhere else in this very flat town – and you'll see the many towers that line Hillegas Road from north to south, as well as Butler Road and West State Boulevard just east of Hillegas.



The map above is keyed to the descriptions below:

1. **WMEE/WQHK/WOWO-FM tower.** This tower was built in the 1970s for what was then WMEF 97.3 after it split off from WKJG-TV 33. Now WMEE, 97.3 is diplexed with sister station WQHK-FM 105.1, which has moved into Fort Wayne in stages from its original location south of the city in Decatur. WOWO-FM 92.3

is lower on the tower with its class A signal, which signed on in the early 1990s as WFWI.

2. **WFFT-TV tower.** Built in 1977 for independent (now Fox affiliate) WFFT 55, which now operates on RF channel 36 from studio and transmitter here.
3. **WWFW tower.** This tower had no broadcast signals on it until late 2014, when Adams Radio Group moved the former WXKE 103.9 to this location from its original 1970s-era tower site on Olympia Court. WLAB 88.3 also moved here in 2014 from the WFWA-TV tower across the street.
4. **WBCL tower.** This tower was originally rather shorter but was extended several years ago to provide more reach for WBCL 90.3, its sole tenant.
5. **WFWA-TV tower.** Channel 39 in Fort Wayne was originally translator W39AA, relaying WBGU-TV Bowling Green, Ohio and later WFYI-TV Indianapolis. Fort Wayne became one of the last cities to get PBS service when WFWA debuted from studios and a tower here in 1986. WFWA now operates here on RF channel 40. The tower is also used by WAJI 95.1 and W38EA-D, the Fort Wayne relay of TCT's WINM channel 63, located northeast of here in Angola, Indiana. TCT maintains studios here in the former WFWA studios. (WFWA's current studios are near the Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne campus on Coliseum Boulevard.)
6. **WPTA tower.** Since 1957, ABC affiliate WPTA 21 has operated from this location on Butler Road. This was the original location of WPTH 95.1, which later became WFWQ and then WAJI before moving to the WFWA tower. Today, WPTA is operated in tandem with NBC affiliate WISE-TV 33, which originates separate newscasts from a shared newsroom/studio here. WPTA (RF 24) and WISE-TV (RF 18) share the tower here as well. A hubbed master control in this building also sends programs to WEEK-TV, WHOI-TV and WAOE in Peoria, Illinois.
7. **WBOI tower.** Fort Wayne's NPR station at 89.1 has operated under several callsigns, first WIPU from the IPFW campus and then WBNI. Its current studio/transmitter site at 3204 Clairmont Court dates to the mid-1990s. It also houses the studio for WBOI's sister classical station, WBNI 94.1, as well as the transmitter for WXKE 96.3.
8. **WANE-TV tower and studio.** Channel 15 began north of Fort Wayne in 1953 as WINT-TV, using a studio in Waterloo and a transmitter site in Auburn (now WGLL 1570). The tower from Auburn was relocated to this location at 2915 West State Boulevard later in the 1950s. WANE, the CBS affiliate in Fort Wayne, now operates here on RF channel 31. A small residential street to the south on Lindenwood Ave. is called "Wane Lane."
9. **Former WKJG-TV studio and tower.** Fort Wayne's first TV station, WKJG-TV 33, signed on here at 2633 West State Boulevard in 1953. The NBC affiliate operated here until 2003, when it became WISE-TV and its studios (and later transmitter) moved to the WPTA facility on Butler Road. The building is now home to a two-way radio company which leases space on the tower. Also note the "Tower Bar and Grill," 2403 W. State Blvd., which is named for the towers.
10. **Former WXKE tower.** Built in 1976 at the end of Olympia Court, this tower was home to rock station WXKE 103.9 until it became WWFW and moved to its current Hillegas Road tower in 2014. WXKE's studios were just down Goshen Road in a building that is now a car dealership.

## YOUR FORT WAYNE RADIO/TV DIAL

### AM

550 WKRC Cincinnati OH talk  
 560 WIND Chicago IL talk  
 580 WILL Urbana IL NPR  
 590 WKZO Kalamazoo MI talk  
 610 WTVN Columbus OH talk  
 620 WTMJ Milwaukee WI talk  
 630 CFCO Chatham-Kent ON country  
 670 WSCR Chicago IL sports  
 700 WLW Cincinnati OH talk  
 720 WGN Chicago IL talk  
 730 WJYM Bowling Green OH religious  
 760 WJR Detroit MI talk  
 780 WBBM Chicago IL news  
 800 CKLW Windsor ON talk  
 820 WVSG Columbus OH religious  
 840 WHAS Louisville KY talk  
 860 WMRI Marion IN sports  
 890 WLS Chicago IL talk  
 920 WBAA West Lafayette IN NPR  
 940 WCIT Lima OH talk  
 960 WSBT South Bend IN sports-talk  
 1000 WMVP Chicago IL sports  
 1070 WFNI Indianapolis IN sports  
 1090 WFCV Fort Wayne IN religious  
 1140 WAWK Kendallville IN classic rock  
 1150 WIMA Lima OH talk  
 1190 WOWO Fort Wayne IN talk  
 1220 WERT Van Wert OH oldies  
 1250 WGL Fort Wayne IN sports  
 1280 WONW Defiance OH talk  
 1300 WBZQ Huntington IN silent  
 1340 WTRC Elkhart IN talk  
 1380 WKJG Fort Wayne IN sports  
 1400 WBAT Marion IN talk  
 1450 WLYV Fort Wayne IN talk  
 1480 WRSW Warsaw IN news  
 1530 WCKY Cincinnati OH sports  
 1540 WJZI Decatur IN silent  
 1570 WIFF Auburn IN religious

### FM

88.3 WLAB Fort Wayne religious  
 88.7 W204BF Fort Wayne // WLAB  
 89.1 WBOI Fort Wayne NPR (+HD2/3)  
 89.7 W209AW Fort Wayne // WPCS Pensacola  
 89.9 WRRO Edon OH // WRDF 106.3  
 90.3 WBCL Fort Wayne religious  
 90.7 WGLE Lima OH NPR//WGTE Toledo

90.9 WBSW Marion NPR // WBST Muncie  
 91.1 WCYT Lafayette Twp high school  
 91.5 WJHS Columbia City high school  
 91.9 WVSH Huntington high school  
 92.3 WOWO-FM Fort Wayne talk // 1190  
 92.7 WZBD Berne AC  
 93.3 WBTU Kendallville country  
 94.1 WBNI Roanoke classical  
 95.1 WAJI Fort Wayne hot AC  
 95.5 W238CA Kendallville // WAWK 1140  
 95.9 WKUZ Wabash country  
 96.3 WXKE Churubusco rock  
 96.9 W245CA Fort Wayne "896.9" // WJFX-HD3  
 97.3 WMEE Fort Wayne hot AC  
 98.1 WDFM Defiance OH AC  
 98.9 WBYR Woodburn rock  
 99.3 WCJC Van Buren country  
 99.7 WKSD Paulding OH AC  
 99.9 W260BR Auburn // WLAB 88.3  
 100.1 WFCV-FM Decatur religious  
 100.3 WLKI Angola AC  
 100.5 WQSW-LP religious  
 100.9 WBNO Bryan OH AC  
 101.1 WIOE South Whitley oldies  
 101.3 WHNH-LP New Haven community  
 101.7 WLDE Fort Wayne AC  
 102.1 WIMT Lima OH country  
 102.3 WGBJ Auburn Spanish  
 102.9 WJCI Huntington religious  
 103.3 W277AK Fort Wayne classic country // WJFX-HD2  
 103.9 WFWW Fort Wayne AC  
 104.5 WLZZ Montpelier country  
 105.1 WQHK Hometown country  
 105.5 WTHD LaGrange  
 106.3 WRDF Columbia City religious  
 106.7 WFGA Hicksville OH sports // 1380  
 106.9 WXXC Marion AC  
 107.3 WRSW-FM Warsaw classic rock  
 107.9 WJFX New Haven top 40 (+HD2/3)

### TV

15 (RF 31) WANE CBS/Antenna TV/weather  
 21 (RF 24) WPTA ABC/CW/weather  
 33 (RF 18) WISE-TV NBC/My  
 38 (RF 38) W38EA-D TCT religion  
 39 (RF 40) WFWA PBS + 3 subs  
 55 (RF 36) WFFT Fox/Bounce