

WZZZ RADIO 1300

1300 Radio Park
Lake Shore Road
Fulton, New York 13069
(315) 593-1313

Ernest-

Thanks for your DX report. Now you have 4,398 QSLs.

On my way to the station 2/10/92, the 1300 spot was home to an unusually strong WJFK. Consequently, I figured they'd give WZZZ some blockage.

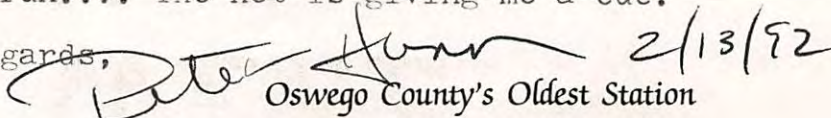
Actually I ran our full 1kW during the test. The old WOSC came my way for \$1 (plus \$89,999 for the land, building, and very broken down equipment). The seller wanted to pass off the original 1949 GE XT-1A transmitter on me, but eventually handed over a 1972 RCA BTA-1S. We use the RCA which is comparable to a mid-60s Ford Falcon. (Not the greatest performance, but at least it starts every morning.) Additionally, the ground system is rather chewed-up and delivers little to DXers east of us.

My wife does the ad sales and I (w/ a few part-timers, and Satellite Music Network's "StarStation") handle the product. WZZZ cuts a better western path, but generally is a 15-20 mile radius facility. That's OK, though, because we are the only station in Fulton (which w/ its contingent communities has @ 30,000 local residents). The Lord has been good to us as WZZZ makes a modest profit (even in this FM oriented world.) And, we've had our fun with the station. Lately, a few other radio people (as well as some salespeople) looking to "buy a job" in this downturned economy have offered to purchase WZZZ. The roster of small, debt-free stations w/good local reputations is apparently shrinking in the under \$200,000 market. I'd like another challenge, and would probably end up with some other silent wreck that'll keep me from my family. (I was shocked to learn the Fitchburg AM went off. Also WSPR, and the little 1050 in Peterborough, NH. I talked last summer with one of the NH owners who was asking @\$250K for the station w/o an FM... now its dark.)

Years ago, someone told me of a tiny commercial up-state NY AM that signed on around 1947. It had a long wire between a pair of trees. The place operated for about a year, and then, according to the tale, went silent when a storm blew down the trees. For the life of me, I can't recall the name of the facility or exact city of license. I know there was a 1220 WOPT in Oswego, NY that competed against WOSC for @ 3 months before going silent (w/ WOPT-FM) following hard financial times and a 1950 wind storm... but I don't think that was the station in the story. Ever heard of such a thing? (Do you have a WOPT 1220 verie? That would be a rare one!)

Got to run.... The net is giving me a cue.

Best regards,

 2/13/92
Oswego County's Oldest Station