

# The Worldwide TV-FM DX Association

*Serving the VHF-UHF Enthusiast*



## VHF-UHF DIGEST

E-ZINE VERSION

**JANUARY 2003**

The VHF-UHF Digest is the official publication of the Worldwide TV-FM DX Association dedicated to the observation and study of the propagation of long distance television and FM broadcasting signals at VHF and UHF. The WTFDA is governed by a board of directors: TOM BRYANT, GREG CONIGLIO, BRUCE HALL, DAVE JANOWIAK AND MIKE BUGAJ.



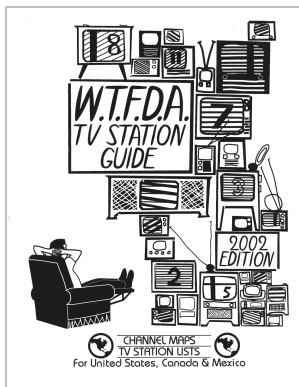
Finally! For those of you online with an email address, we now offer a quick, convenient and secure way to join or renew your membership in the WTFDA from our page at:

<http://fmdx.usclargo.com/join.html>

Dues are \$25 if paid from your account and \$26 if paid by credit card because of fees charged. And of course you can always renew by check or money order for the usual price.

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### The 2002 WTFDA TV STATION GUIDE

Start your new year with the most comprehensive listing off North American Television stations in print! Just \$23 US will get you one. Mail your check or money order

today. Make it payable to Dave Janowiak and mail it to John Ebeling, 9209 Vincent Avenue S., Bloomington, MN 55431-2157. Remember, there won't be a station guide for 2003 so get your copy now for the 2003 DX season before they're out of print.

Happy new year everyone! It's 2003 and we're still here having fun! Our DX columns are a little light this month but we still managed to squeak out 32 pages for your enjoyment. Keith is back this month with four pages of DX loggings, Saul is back for one last time with WTFDA On-Line, Chuck Rippel tells us about doing tuner alignments and I wonder a little about DTV DXing in the years ahead of us.

If anyone would like to take over the WTFDA Online column, please email me and we'll try to make the conversion quick and painless for you. -Mike

## INTERNET CHAT!

### LIVE WTFDA CHAT TWICE A WEEK!

We've been at this for a few years now. The old-timers of chat know where to find us, but if you're new to chat and want to participate here are the directions:

**Internet Relay Chat (IRC): the ICQnet net**

**Our room name is #dx**

Find us there Tuesday and Friday evenings at 10:00 pm EST!



# The Mailbox

P.O. Box 501, Somersville, CT USA 06072  
MIKE BUGAJ MBUGAJ@SNET.NET

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## JANUARY 2003

Happy New Year everyone! We made it to 2003 in one piece. My wish is that we all have a safe and peaceful New Year. And it wouldn't hurt to have a good amount of skip this year either.

We might be imagining things but we seem to have had more skip in this winter season than we did last year. During the winter months skip tends to occur in the southern states and Steve Wiseblood noticed some in Texas on 12/2. Then on 12/9 another opening occurred that was noticed in a wider area from the east coast to Matt Sittel in Nebraska.

F2 on the other hand seems to have taken a dive. 42mhz seems empty in the afternoons and the CHPs were heard only a few times.

## DUES AND PAYPAL

Let's go over our dues structure again because there's a little confusion about how much you need to pay.

Basic dues are just like they've always been, which means either \$24, \$26 or \$38 a year depending on where you live. And as usual you pay either by check or money order. Nothing here has changed.

The change here is for WTFDA members who want to use Paypal. This service is only for people who want to pay from the accounts they already have set up on the *Paypal website*. If a member chooses to go to the Paypal website and renew his/her membership, that person will find that he can pay from his own account by electronic funds transfer or by a valid credit card. When he does, the money is transferred into my account on Paypal. I then withdraw the cash and send it to Mr. Janowiak, our treasurer. Yearly dues for US members is \$25 by funds transfer and \$26 if a credit card is used. Please, DO NOT mail me your credit card number because I cannot process credit

card orders (and I probably never will be able to either). If anyone has questions about all of this please feel free to either email me or send me a letter and I'll get back to you.

## MEMBERS AND MORE

This month we say hi to Brian May. Brian lives in Fairfield, CT and is into TV DXing. I spoke to Brian on the phone one afternoon and we spent some time talking about antennas and DXing. If I remember correctly we have about 5 members from CT here now. That's great! More from Brian later.

Renewals received recently from David Wurl(WI), John Erdner(PA), James Roggentine(CA), Chester Jaffee(CA), Ted Liszewski in beautiful Paramus,NJ, Randall Trapp(MN), Eric Bueneman(MO), Matt Sittel(NE), John Jefferson(WA), Lawrence Marecki(OH), Dave Janowiak(WI), Eldon Geiman(PA), Kevin Redding(AZ), Girard Westerberg(KY) and Rick Shaftan(NJ). We thank you all for staying with us and we especially thank those who wrote a check for \$48 for two years! Thank you!

Now let's go back to Brian. He writes "Also included is the log of TV stations I received on my record DXing night. You'll note that the log shows two totals. This is because in the 80s, when I did detailed logging, I used the peak number of TV stations I received in a two-hour period for each night's totals. I would like to know if any WTFDA member could match either total."

Brian's log for June 28, 1995 shows 55 TV stations logged between 8:15 and 10:15pm, and then an additional 6 more seen between 10:15 and midnight for a total of 61 stations. Brian asked me if anyone in the club keeps a TV log in this manner, and I told him that I had no idea. If any of you do, write in or email me and let me know. I have a hunch that with the TV band so crowded in many places that somebody could come up with a total close to that with just locals and semi's.

And that brings up an interesting question. I wonder who of you has the most number of stations on the air in your area. I mean local and semi-local TV stations, not DX stations. Could it be Neil Kazaross or somebody else?

### **PI CODES ON AN RDS MANAGER!**

This from Bill Nollman regarding a mod for the Conrad RDS Managers:

“Well, after losing \$50 cash in international mail then successfully sending money to Czechoslovakia by Western Union then waiting 2 weeks, I finally have gotten my hands on a few of Jan Kolar's PI Code chips for the Conrad RDS Manager.

And I must say they work GREAT. I would simply compare it to being as good if not a tad better than the Windows PC software. The PI chip seems to always lock into the correct PI code where the software sometimes shows a wrong digit or two for a second or two. Compared to the Conrad sensitivity it is about 500% better (the Conrad won't display PS codes until the signal is rather stable).

Installation is not too terrible. You have to solder 7 wires from the chip (or better a socket) to points on the board inside the RDS Manager, and also drill holes for two small switches in the case, and of course, wire up those also. The two switches turn on PI mode and also freeze the display showing the first PI code that was received.

If anyone is interested in the chip, check out Jan's web site at <http://mujweb.atlas.cz/www/picode/> where you can buy them at 15 Euros (like I said, try Western Union if it is ok with Jan)....or....

I bought a few extras, so I have just the chips themselves. The switches and socket can be bought at Radio Shack. I'd like to re-coupe my costs, which unfortunately doubled since the first \$50 was "lost in the mail" (I learned my lesson). So, \$15 for the chip and shipping. You will need to buy the switches (about \$6 for two) and the socket is optional depending on how good you are at soldering.”

Anyone interested in these chips should email Bill at [lsnwnn@attbi.com](mailto:lsnwnn@attbi.com) or you can write Bill at 11 Hidden Oak Drive, Farmington, CT 06032.



### **STATE OF THE CLUB**

As we start the year 2003 we say *Happy New Year* to everyone in the club! Our membership is steady at about 280 members and the WTFDA is in fine shape. Our financial situation is good. Publishing costs are holding steady and will as long as the printer likes us and wants to keep our business, and we'll keep him as long as everyone feels that the VUD quality is acceptable.

The best perk we have here in the club is the WTFDA list on Topica. People will either read about it or find out about it from other WTFDA members and sign up for their free sixty days. A good amount like it here and stay. We have around 150 folks on the list; normally at any given time 3-4 of them are visitors.

The electronic VUD (known as the eVUD) has over 50 members who download it every month and most of them also get the paper VUD. The eVUD is a mirror of the paper VUD but with color photos. We don't use the cover of the VUD. Instead the inside front cover becomes the cover with a little redesign. People like it. If you want to see one, email me and I'll tell you where you can go (the URL) to download the newest one.

We've sold around 105 issues of the 2002 TV Station Guide out of 140 printed copies. We may have broken even on the sales, which is what we had hoped for, even considering that some of them were received damaged by John Ebeling after shipment from the printer. If you want one, you can still get one.

Paypal has been a bit confusing to some folks, but overall it has gone over very well, as shown in this unsolicited testimonial from a member: "I just renewed for another year using the Paypal option. It was easy and convenient – much easier than getting my wife to write a check! Thanks for providing the service."

Jim Thomas is our convention co-ordinator now. We'll give you more information on the next convention as soon as we find out.

**LAST BUT NOT LEAST**...we hope you had a great holiday season and let's hope and pray for a peaceful 2003. -Mike

# TV News

January 2003

Douglas E. Smith W9WI  
1385 Old Clarksville Pike  
Pleasant View, TN 37146-8098  
W9WI@w9wi.com

<http://www.w9wi.com>

## Abbreviations:

AF	Applied for (a new station)	PR	Power (or tower height) change requested
CC	Call change	QC	Channel change on the air
CL	City-of-license change	QG	Channel change granted
DE	Station deleted	QR	Channel change requested
FC	Programming (format) change	RA	Returned to the air
GA	Granted Amendment (of channel-allocation table)	ROA	Request of applicant
LC	License to cover (for changes or new station)	SI	Off the air (Asilent@)
NO	Not on the air	STA	Special Temporary Authority
NS	New station granted permit	XC	Transmitter site change on the air
NW	New station on the air	XG	Transmitter site change granted
PA	Proposed Amendment (of channel-allocation table)		
PC	Power (or tower height) change on the air		
PG	Power (or tower height) change granted		

DTV stations *in italics*; full-license stations in **boldface**.

## News:

### Alabama:

Bessemer 18 WDBB-DT NS 350kw/675m  
Birmingham 30 WIAT-DT NW 1000kw/426m,  
33-29-04/86-48-25  
Birmingham 46 W51BY QR from ch. 51,  
15.1kw,  
33-29-04/86-48-25  
Huntsville 19 WHNT-TV PC>1290kw/531m  
Huntsville 49 WAFF-DT NW 41kw/552m,  
34-42-39/86-32-07  
Mobile 47 WPMI-DT NW 1000kw/558m,  
30-36-40/87-36-27  
Montgomery 32 WNCF PC<3000kw

### Alaska:

Eagle R. Road 60 K60GM QG from K61CB  
Fairbanks 26 KTVF-DT PG<12kw  
Kenai 6 K06MF PC>1.44kw,  
60-31-56/151-05-00

### Arizona:

Douglas 22 new-LPTV AF dismissed  
(Mexican objection)  
Duncan 20 K20GG QC from ch. 23  
Green Valley 29 KPCE-LP PG>150kw  
Phoenix 41 KPSW-LP FC swaps  
w/KDRX-48 (HSE)  
Phoenix 48 KDRX-LP FC swaps  
w/KPSW-41 (KPHZ-11  
Tmd); PR>52.6kw  
Tolleson 52 KPPX-DT NW 200kw/546m  
Tucson 28 KUAS-DT PG>50kw/178m  
Winslow 5 K05LG QG from K09JZ,  
100w

### Arkansas:

Fayetteville 64 K64FO FC to Fox or UPN  
Fort Smith 33 K33HE QG from K52FJ,  
12.5kw,  
35-29-34/93-32-25 near  
Clarksville  
Fort Smith 34 K34EN PC>8.2kw,  
35-31-30/94-22-27  
Fort Smith 43 K43EZ PG>5.8kw  
Little Rock 50 KHTE-LP QG from ch. 44,  
50kw,  
34-47-56/92-29-44

### California:

Anaheim 56 KDOC-TV PR 2390kw/922m,  
34-13-36/118-03-58  
Bakersfield 31 KABE-LP QR from ch. 39  
dismissed ROA  
Barstow 64 KHIZ PC>5000kw/478m,  
34-36-38/117-17-20  
Ceres 15 KBSV-DT PR<15kw/172m,  
37-29-34/121-13-29  
Delano 11 K14IK QR from ch. 14,  
3kw,  
35-26-17/118-44-22, CL  
to Bakersfield  
East L.A. 64 KHIZ-1 AF dismissed  
El Centro 7 KVYE PG>444m,  
33-03-02/114-49-38  
El Centro 34 new-LPTV AF dismissed  
(Mexican objection)  
Eureka 17 KVIQ-DT PG<30kw/550m  
Los Angeles 25 KNET-LP PR>7.5kw,  
34-12-48/118-03-41  
Los Angeles 35 KMEX-DT NW 400kw/956m  
Modesto 27 KEXT-CA PR>90kw  
Morongo Valley 21 K60AY QC from ch. 60  
Morongo Valley 30 K64AU QC from ch. 64  
Paso Robles 17 K17GD QG from K21EX  
Sacramento 43 900312KG PR<100kw/304m,  
38-37-49/120-51-20  
San Bernardino 38 KPXN-DT PR>1000kw/909m  
San Francisco 51 KDTV-DT NW 476kw/701m,  
37-29-57/121-52-16  
San Jose 41 KKPX-DT NW 1000kw/418m,  
37-41-15/122-26-01 Mt.  
San Bruno, San  
Francisco  
Santa Rosa 54 KFTY-DT PG>30kw/928m  
Vallejo 66 KFSF XC  
37-45-19/122-27-16

### Colorado:

Aurora 45 KDEV-LP QR from ch. 16,  
43kw,  
39-40-31/104-52-22  
dismissed ROA

Colorado Springs Cortez	30 K30AA 14 K14JS	PC>126.5kw PC>920w, 37-21-01/108-00-01	Macon	32 WDMA-LP	PR>32kw, 32-50-43/83-40-14 dismissed ROA
Cortez	18 K18DR	PC>920w, 37-21-01/108-00-01	Perry	32 WPGA-DT	PR<18kw/185m (amendment) CL to Macon?
Cortez	20 K20DI	PC>920w, 37-21-01/108-00-01	Savannah	13 WVAN-DT	QG from ch. 46, 20kw/293m
Cortez	22 K22CU	PC>920w, 37-21-01/108-00-01	Savannah Vidalia	15 WTOC-DT 14 W14CQ	NW 422kw/420m PR>4.8kw, 32-14-02/82-28-52
Denver	48 K48FW	QG from K33DN, 15.5kw, 39-44-37/104-59-18	Wrens	2 WCES-DT	QG from ch. 36, 30kw/436m
Durango Ignacio Trinidad	15 KREZ-DT 52 K52GA 34 K34GI	PG<46kw/90m QG from ch. 15 XR	<b>Hawaii:</b> Honolulu	52 K51HI	QG from K42CO, 1.2kw, 21-18-11/157-51-27. Why K51???
Windcliff	45 K45HH	37-14-14/104-30-52 QG from K55AU, 12.1kw			
<b>Connecticut:</b>					
Hartford	10 WHTX-LP	FC to Telefutura?; QR to ch. 28+, 1.5kw, 41-42-13/72-49-57 dismissed but reinstated	<b>Idaho:</b> Albion	32 K09IR	QR from ch. 9, 50w, 42-21-40/113-27-19
New Haven New Haven	10 WTNH-DT 39 WCTX-DT	PG>20.5kw NW 100kw/301m	Boise	51 K51GW	QG from K64EJ, 150kw, 43-44-23/116-08-14
<b>District of Columbia:</b>			Coeur d'Alene	41 K41FJ	QG from ch. 31, 9.6kw
Washington	51 WBDC-DT	PG>125kw/253m, 38-57-44/77-01-36	Lewiston	55 K55HZ	PC>360w
<b>Delaware:</b>			<b>Illinois:</b>		
Wilmington	31 WPPX-DT	NS 250kw/398m, 40-02-56/75-15-01 (XR in PA)	Arbury Hills	46 W52BR	QR from ch. 52, 150kw, 41-53-06/87-37-17, CL from Champaign. Site is a few miles south of Chicago
<b>Florida:</b>			Bloomington	28 WYZZ-DT	NW 3kw/90m
Boca Raton	40 WPPB-DT	GA from ch. 44	Bloomington	51 W51CT	QC from ch. 64, 6.6kw
Fort Myers	9 WINK-DT	GA from ch. 53	Chicago	13 WOCC-CA	PC>3kw
Hollywood	47 WAMI-DT	NW 575kw/297m, 25-59-09/80-11-37	Chicago	27 WCIU-DT	PR>510m
Jacksonville	38 WJCT-DT	PG>288m	Chicago	30 W49BS	QR from ch. 49, 100kw, 41-52-44/87-38-08 (Sears Tower), CL from Quincy
Key West	33 WCAY-LP	QG from ch. 34, 4.57kw	Moline	23 WQPT-DT	PR>269m, 41-18-44/90-22-45
Lakeland	19 WMOR-DT	PG>458m	Palatine	68 W68DO	QC from ch. 36, 12.6kw
Miami	31 WTVJ-DT	AF 1000kw/311m, 25-58-07/80-13-20	Rockford	16 WTVO-DT	NW 196kw/201m
Miami	44 WHDT-LP	PG>15kw	Springfield	42 WICS-DT	NW 2kw/96m
Ocala	31 WOGX-DT	NW 500kw/259m	<b>Indiana:</b>		
Panama City	44 W44CD	QG from W50BP, 50kw, 30-11-41/85-50-01	Angola	12 WINM-DT	NW 16.5kw/132m
<b>Pensacola</b>	<b>3 WEAR-TV</b>	<b>PG&gt;575m, 30-36-45/87-38-43</b>	Hammond	36 WJYS-DT	NW 50kw/455m, 41-52-44/87-38-10 (Sears Tower, Chicago)
Sarasota	52 WWSB-DT	NW 200kw/233m, 27-33-21/82-21-49	South Bend	25 WMWB-LP	PC>37.8kw, 41-36-55/86-11-07
Tallahassee	32 WFSU-DT	PG>237m	South Bend	57 WBND-LP	PC>58.2kw, 41-36-55/86-11-07
Tampa	47 WFTT-DT	PG>1000kw/317m	<b>Iowa:</b>		
<b>Georgia:</b>			Waterloo	22 KWWF	NW 24kw/19m, 42-29-51/92-20-07, UPN. Listed as 500kw/28m but believe reduction to 24kw already granted.
Albany	17 WALB-DT	NW 29kw/92m, 31-36-46/84-11-19			
Albany	34 W34CZ	QG from W61DF (via ch. 23), 6.3kw, 31-26-43/84-07-53	<b>Kansas:</b>		
Atlanta	36 WATL	NS 2690kw/332m, 33-48-27/84-20-27 (aux backup)	Salina	17 KAAS-DT	NW 65kw/3134m
Carrollton Dawson	49 W49AD 8 WACS-DT	PC<800w QG from ch. 26, 6kw/313m	Salina	41 K41HT	PR>73.5kw,
Hartwell	22 W22AC	PG<900w, already on the air			
Hiawassee	50 W50AB	PG<1.05kw, already on the air			

Topeka	28 KSNT-DT	38-55-55/97-35-27	<b>Mississippi:</b>		
Topeka	39 K65GA	NW 4kw/130m	<i>Biloxi</i>	16 WMAH-DT	requests DA
		QR from ch. 65,	Jackson	45 WJMF-LP	QG from ch. 53,
		150kw,			2.5kw
		39-04-50/95-43-37, CL			
		from Ottumwa, IA	<b>Missouri:</b>		
		dismissed, untimely	St. Joseph	46 K53FC	QR from ch. 53,
		filed			100kw,
Topeka	43 KTLJ-LP	PC>29.3kw, but LC			39-44-42/94-45-07, CL
		rescinded			from Ottumwa, IA
<b>Wichita</b>	<b>3 KSNW</b>	<b>PC&lt;300m,</b>			dismissed, untimely
		<b>37-46-25/97-30-54</b>			filed
<i>Wichita</i>	26 KSAS-DT	NW 350kw/303m,	Springfield	41 K41FQ	QC from ch. 52,
		37-46-40/97-30-37			76kw,
					37-13-08/92-56-56
<b>Kentucky:</b>			<b>Montana:</b>		
<i>Louisville</i>	55 WHAS-DT	NW 1000kw/370m,	<b>Great Falls</b>	<b>26 KLMN</b>	<b>PG&lt;355kw/65m</b>
		38-21-23/85-50-52	Missoula	42 K42EO	NW 6.7kw,
<i>Morehead</i>	21 WUPX-DT	NW 719kw/434m,			46-48-30/113-58-38
		37-54-27/83-38-00	Polson	10 K10LP	XR
					47-40-39/114-08-30,
					already granted.
<b>Louisiana:</b>					PR>90w dismissed
Baton Rouge	19 KZUP-CA	CC from KBTR-LP			ROA
Baton Rouge	21 WBRL-CA	CC from KANC-LP			QR from ch. 10,
Baton Rouge	30 WLFT-LP	QC from ch. 52,			46-27-33/110-51-22
		50kw			PC>1kw,
<i>Baton Rouge</i>	46 WAFB-DT	PG<46kw/146m,			46-32-40/110-54-01
		30-26-36/91-10-54			
Hammond	23 WSTY-LP	PG>50kw,			
		30-32-30/90-29-03			
<b>Lake Charles</b>	<b>7 KPLC-TV</b>	<b>XG</b>	<b>Nebraska:</b>		
		<b>30-23-46/93-00-03</b>	Lincoln	27 K27GX	QC from ch. 31
<b>New Iberia</b>	<b>50 960612KF</b>	QR from ch. 53,	<b>North Platte</b>	<b>9 KPNE-TV</b>	<b>PR&gt;319m,</b>
		145m,			<b>41-06-13/100-58-53</b>
		<b>29-55-12/91-46-07</b>			<b>dismissed</b>
<b>New Orleans</b>	<b>26 WGNO</b>	<b>AF 3120kw/131m</b>			
		<b>(aux backup)</b>	<b>Nevada:</b>		
<i>New Orleans</i>	40 WNOL-DT	PR>660kw/309m	Eureka	17 K17FY	QC from ch. 68
<b>Shreveport</b>	<b>3 KTBS-TV</b>	<b>PG&lt;541m</b>	Eureka	21 K21GJ	QC from ch. 63
			Eureka	51 K51GR	QC from ch. 60
			<i>Henderson</i>	9 KVVU-DT	NW 86kw/385m
			<i>Laughlin</i>	32 KMCC-DT	PR 41.6kw/-63m,
					35-10-08/114-38-09
<b>Maine:</b>			<b>Laughlin</b>	<b>34 KMCC</b>	<b>PR 416kw/-63m,</b>
<i>Biddeford</i>	45 WMEA-DT	NW 50kw/231m,			<b>35-10-08/114-38-09</b>
		43-25-00/70-48-17			QR from ch. 62,
<b>Waterville</b>	<b>23 WMPX</b>	<b>FC to Fox</b>			8kw,
					36-12-14/115-57-16;
					city s/b "Pahrump"
<b>Massachusetts:</b>			<i>Reno</i>	7 KRNVT-DT	PR<876m
<i>Boston</i>	20 WCVB-DT	AF 200kw/191m	Reno	68 KUVR-CA	QC from ch. 47,
		(aux backup)			800w,
<i>Boston</i>	39 WSBK-DT	NW 135kw/390m,			39-18-47/119-52-59;
		42-18-37/71-14-14			then PG<30w; then QR
<i>Norwell</i>	52 WWDP-DT	PG>1000kw/144m,			to ch. 46, 10.9kw.
		42-00-38/71-02-42			
<b>Michigan:</b>			<b>New Jersey:</b>		
Battle Creek	14 WOBC-CA	QC from ch. 20	Atlantic City	60 W60CX	QC from ch. 36,
<b>Flint</b>	<b>28 WFUM</b>	<b>PG&lt;2160kw/258m</b>			2kw, 39-21-40/74-25-04
<i>Flint</i>	36 WJRT-DT	NW 860kw/248m	Cherry Hill	68 W68DN	PC 1.53kw,
<i>Grand Rapids</i>	7 WOOD-DT	PR>288m			39-43-41/74-50-39
<i>Kalamazoo</i>	2 WWMT-DT	NW 6.9kw/305m	<i>Secaucus</i>	38 WWOR-DT	LC for NS
Lansing	27 W69BJ	PR>8.5kw,			dismissed due to 9/11
		42-43-16/84-33-01			destruction
<b>Lansing</b>	<b>53 WLAJ</b>	<b>PG&gt;1410kw</b>	<b>New Mexico:</b>		
<b>Traverse City</b>	<b>29 WGTU</b>	<b>PR&gt;1303kw/393m</b>	Albuquerque	25 KQDF-LP	QC from ch. 35, CC
<i>Traverse City</i>	31 WGTU-DT	PR 64.8kw/393m			from K25HP
			<b>Albuquerque</b>	<b>50 KASY-TV</b>	<b>PG 1399kw/1287m,</b>
					<b>35-12-48/106-27-00</b>
<b>Minnesota:</b>			Albuquerque	59 K59DB	FC to religion //
<b>Chisholm</b>	<b>11 KRIL NW 316kw/200m,</b>	<b>47-51-39/92-56-46,</b>			KAZQ-32
		<b>KBJR-6 NBC</b>	Ruidoso	5 new-LPTV	AF dismissed
<i>Duluth</i>	43 WDIO-DT	NW 54kw/274m			(Mexican objection)
<i>Hibbing</i>	36 WIRT-DT	NW 143kw/167m	Tucumcari	35 K35FP	QC from ch. 67,
Minneapolis	58 K58BS	PR>20kw dismissed			660w
		ROA			
Rochester	58 K58GC	PC>29kw	<b>New York:</b>		

Corning	48 WYDC	PG>163kw/229m, 42-08-31/77-04-40	Newberg	51 KOXO-CA	QG from ch. 66, 118kw, 45-29-24/122-41-53
Ithaca	52 WNYI	PR>5000kw/396m, 42-52-50/76-11-46 dismissed; PG 26kw/-94m, 42-25-47/76-29-49; NW, w/test pattern; CC	Rogue River	17 K17EZ	QC from ch. 67, 1.31kw
New York	26 WNXV-LP	QC from ch. 27, 20kw	Roseburg	45 KMTX-DT	PG<12kw/109m
New York	43 WXNY-LP	QR from ch. 39, 10kw; FC to Azteca America	Roseburg	47 K47HT	QC from ch. 57, 3.8kw, 43-12-08/123-22-54
Troy	35 WNGN-LP	QC from ch. 26, 8kw	Salem	4 KPXG-DT	PR16kw/490m, 45-31-21/122-44-45
Utica	29 WKTV-DT	PR>708kw (amendment)	Salem	50 K50GG	QC from ch. 27, 11.1kw
<b>North Carolina:</b>			<b>Pennsylvania:</b>		
Fayetteville	40 WKFT	FC to Univision	Allentown	69 WFMZ-TV	PC>5000kw
Fayetteville	66 W66DF	QC from ch. 53, 37.1kw	Bethlehem	60 WBPH-TV	PG>2950kw/286m
Greenville	60 W60CV	QC from ch. 54, 33.9kw	Erie	35 WSEE-TV	PC>291m, 42-02-16/80-03-44
Smithfield	34 WARZ-LP	QG from ch. 35, 12kw; already on the air	Philadelphia	10 WCAU	PG 137kw/392m, 40-02-30/75-14-11
Wilson	20 WNCR-LP	CC from WACW	Scranton	13 WYOU-DT	NW 1.45kw/409m
<b>North Dakota:</b>			Wilkes-Barre	11 WBRE-DT	NW 1.45kw/409m
Pembina	15 KNRR-DT	PG 750kw	<b>South Carolina:</b>		
<b>Ohio:</b>			Columbia	8 WOLO-DT	NW 44kw/529m, 34-06-58/80-45-51
Canton	17 WDLI	PR>1000kw/278m, 41-03-20/81-35-38	Columbia	41 WIS-DT	PG 874kw/462m
Chillicothe	46 WWHO-DT	NW 1000kw/328m, 39-35-20/83-06-44	Columbia	48 WACH-DT	NW 520kw/464m, 34-06-58/80-45-51
Mansfield	12 WMFD-DT	NW 4.8kw/161m	Greenville	21 WHNS	PA from Asheville, NC
Youngstown	20 WFMJ-DT	NS 460kw/295m	Greenville	57 WHNS-DT	PA from Asheville, NC
<b>Oklahoma:</b>			<b>South Dakota:</b>		
Claremore	36 KRSC-DT	PR>149kw/255m	Aberdeen	28 KABY-DT	NW 54kw/396m, 45-06-23/97-53-57
Grove	48 KELF-LP	QG from ch. 43, 29.6kw	Brookings	40 K40FZ	QC from ch. 15, 13.5kw
Guymon	26 K26HC	QG from K59GF, 9.84kw	Florence	2 KDLO-DT	QR from ch. 25, 3.7kw/241m, 44-57-53/97-34-50
Oklahoma City	25 KOKH-TV	PG>3470kw/476m	Pierre	14 K14IO	NW <8kw, 44-18-42/100-21-10
Oklahoma City	50 KOPX-DT	NW 200kw/483m, 35-35-52/97-29-22	Pierre	19 KPRY-DT	NW 61kw/347m
Shawnee	30 KQOK	NW 5000kw/255m, 35-16-50/97-20-14	Reliance	13 KPLO-DT	QR from ch. 14, 40kw/318m
Sulphur	34 KOKT-LP	QC from ch. 20, 3.5kw, 33-51-04/96-30-57	<b>Tennessee:</b>		
Tulsa	22 KOKI-DT	NW 1000kw/401m, 36-01-36/95-40-44	Bristol	9 WOPI-LP	PG>840w
Tulsa	23 KOKI-TV	PR<3160kw/400m	Memphis	44 WBXP-CA	PG>150kw
Tulsa	42 KTFO-DT	NW 900kw/381m, 36-01-36/95-40-44	Nashville	20 WVIE-LP	QC from ch. 10, 40kw, 36-16-05/86-47-45
Tulsa	51 KOPE-LP	PC>7.15kw, 36-05-41/95-52-00	<b>Texas:</b>		
<b>Oregon:</b>			Abilene	4 KKWB-LP	CC from KAGT-LP
Cave Junction	48 K48GO	QC from ch. 61, 1.1kw	Alvin	67 KFTH	PC 4800kw/598m, 29-34-15/95-30-37
Coos Bay	22 KMTZ-DT	PG<10kw/179m	Amarillo	8 KACV-DT	PR<5kw/519m, 35-22-30/101-52-56
Eugene	4 K04DR	XC 44-02-01/123-00-25	Austin	11 KQUX-CA	PR>3kw
Eugene	17 KMTR-DT	PG<70kw/473m	Beaumont	21 960724LH	AF (full power) dismissed
Grants Pass	47 K47GI	QC from ch. 65, 10.1kw; then to 2.3kw	Beaumont	68 new-LPTV	AF dismissed
Klamath Falls	29 KDKF-DT	PR<5kw/651m	Dallas	27 KDFI	PG>517m, 32-32-36/96-57-32
La Pine	5 K05JV	PR>350w	El Paso	14 KFOX-TV	PC>420kw
Medford	35 KTVL-DT	NW <10.2kw/1008m	El Paso	53 K46DH	QR from ch. 46, 30kw, 31-48-55/106-29-20, CL from Las Cruces, NM dismissed (Mexican objection)
Medford	38 KDRV-DT	PR<38.9kw/819m, already granted	Fort Worth	51 KFWD-DT	NW 375kw/545m, 32-35-19/96-58-05

Garland	24 KUVN-DT	PG 190kw/518m, 32-35-21/96-58-12	Charlottesville	32 WVIR-DT	NW 6.5kw/306m
Houston	9 KUHT-DT	NW 8.4kw/564m	Hampton	16 WHRO-DT	LC rescinded (due WBOC)
Houston	38 KHWB-DT	NW 1000kw/582m	Richmond	25 WTVR-DT	NW 410kw/347m, 37-30-45/77-36-05
Kingsville	46 K46DL	PG>4.9kw	Woodstock	10 WAZT-CA	PG>3kw
Lubbock	14 KUPT-LP	QC from ch. 22, 12kw	Wytheville	41 WKPZ-LP	PG>700w, 36-54-28/81-04-06
Odessa	38 KOCV-DT	GA from ch. 22			
Pecos	20 K20HD	QC from ch. 18			
<b>Rosenberg</b>	<b>45 KXLN-TV</b>	<b>PC&gt;594m, 29-33-44/95-30-35</b>	<b>Washington:</b>		
San Antonio	16 KHCE-DT	PR 500kw/307m, 29-17-24/98-15-20	Bellevue	32 KWPX-DT	NW 175kw/717m, 47-30-17/121-58-06
San Antonio	17 KNIC-CA	FC to Telefutera	<b>West Virginia:</b>		
San Antonio	38 KVDA-DT	NW 1000kw/414m	Charleston	21 W26BK	QR from ch. 26, 74.5kw, 38-25-15/81-55-27, CL from Talbert, KY dismissed ROA
San Antonio	44 KGMM-LP	PG 48.5kw			
<b>Sherman</b>	<b>20 960920YP</b>	<b>AF (full power) dismissed</b>	Martinsburg	12 WWPX-DT	NW 23kw/314m
Temple	9 KCEN-DT	NW 25kw/527m			
Turkey	18 K18GN	QG from K54AW	<b>Wisconsin:</b>		
Turkey	20 K20HP	QG from K56DM	Ashland	45 W45CI	NS 15.9kw, 46-35-23/90-50-05 (KQDS-21)
Turkey	22 K22GR	QG from K58DF			
Turkey	24 K24FX	QG from K60BW	Green Bay	51 WLUK-DT	PG>365m, 44-20-01/87-58-55
<b>Waco</b>	<b>25 KXXV</b>	<b>PR&gt;561m</b>	Madison	23 W23BW	QC from ch. 54, 15kw
<b>Utah:</b>					
Bloomington	20 K20GJ	QC from ch. 61, 790w			
Modena	17 K17FF	QC from ch. 12, 200w, 37-42-14/113-44-29	<b>Wyoming:</b>		
<b>Provo</b>	<b>32 960404KX</b>	<b>PR&gt;2990kw/825m, 40-16-45/111-56-00</b>	Jackson	4 KJWY-DT	PA from ch. 14
Rural Beaver	33 K33FW	QC from ch. 18, 960w, 38-31-05/113-17-03	<b>Jackson</b>	<b>11 KBEO</b>	<b>NW 316kw/316m, 43-27-40/110-45-09</b>
Salt Lake City	38 KSL-DT	PR<1128m, 40-39-35/112-12-02	<b>Puerto Rico:</b>		
Salt Lake City	46 KJZZ-DT	NW 200kw/1266m, 40-39-33/112-12-07	Caguas	56 WLII-DT	NW 71kw/354m, 18-17-01/66-06-47
Salt Lake City	50 KEJT-LP	QC from ch. 48, 8.6kw, 40-39-37/112-12-05	Carolina	51 WRFB-DT	PG 450kw/585m; CC from WDZE
Salt Lake City	51 KULX-CA	PR>18.2kw, 40-39-34/112-12-05; CL from Ogden	Quebradillas	48 W48CS	QC from ch. 66
Santa Clara	49 K49AS	FC to KUTV-2	<b>Virgin Islands:</b>		
Tooele	64 K64FZ	QC from ch. 24, 1.13kw	Christansted	23 WCVI-DT	GA from ch. 5
Toquerville	3 K03AL	FC to KUTV-2	<b>Canada:</b>		
Wanship	6 K06JH	PC>40w	<b>Nova Scotia:</b>		
Wanship	8 K08JE	PC>40w	Cheticamp	14 new-LPTV	AF 20w to carry MuchMusic (scrambled)
Wanship	10 K10KO	PC>40w	<b>Quebec:</b>		
<b>Virginia:</b>			Baie-Saint-Paul	26 CFTF -n	NS 50w
Bristol	28 WCYB-DT	PG>183kw/757m	Gaspe	58 CFTF -n	NS 50w
			<b>Trois-Rivieres</b>	<b>13 CKTM-TV</b>	<b>PG&gt;164.4kw</b>
			<b>Trois-Rivieres</b>	<b>16 CFKM-TV</b>	<b>PG&gt;169.5kw</b>

The march of new DTVs and DTV changes continues. Long-distance LPTV moves have slowed down though. You should however note that they're still trying to sneak two new ones into Chicago (<grin>). I believe the two applications dismissed as Auntimely filed@ were filed as applications for minor change, which may be filed at any time. They seem to have actually been major changes - which can only be filed during certain windows - and were thus dismissed. I'm unclear on the difference between Aminor@ and Aminor@ changes.

Some LPTVs have been allowed to move several hundred miles under a Aminor change@

WWOR-DT had completed construction at their original site, and filed for a license to cover. Unfortunately, we all know their original site - the World Trade Center - ceased to exist in 2001. I might expect the other NYC DTVs to file similar dismissals. (except for WCBS and WNYW which were always on the Empire State Building). WNY1-52 appeared with a test pattern just



hours before their construction permit was to expire. There's no word on programming plans. (My guess is there aren't any)

WHRO-DT's license to cover for channel 16 in the Tidewater area of Virginia has been rescinded. This station has been the subject of complaints of severe interference to WBOC-16 (analog) in nearby Salisbury, Maryland. They may still be operating at reduced power, pending development of a permanent solution.

There are no technical changes involved in WHNS-21's proposed move to Greenville, South Carolina. The existing transmitter site already provides city-grade coverage over Greenville. This is simply an administrative move, presumably to allow keeping facilities like the [public file](#) at offices in Greenville where most of the economic activity in the market occurs.

The FCC has released a Notice of Inquiry (FCC 02-328) which proposes to open up more spectrum for unlicensed low-power devices. The 2.4GHz unlicensed band has been wildly successful, with surveillance cameras, wireless computer networking, and wide-range cordless phones among the applications. 02-328 proposes to open another band near 3GHz for this use. More ominously, it also proposes to open the TV channels. The inquiry asks whether devices can be designed to automatically check whether a channel is occupied before transmitting on it.

Cold weather has meant non-existent tropo. We have had some good early winter skip though. Here's hoping DX is rolling in as you read this!

#### **A two-bit guide to TV News:**

Items in TV News are grouped by state, then by city, then by channel. The city given is the [City of License](#) for full-power stations, or the [Principal Community](#) for low-power operations. The transmitter may be elsewhere, occasionally even in a different state. I'm aware that the transmitter is in a well-known location (like the Sears Tower in Chicago or Mt. Wilson in Los Angeles) I'll try to note it - but I don't guarantee I'll always succeed.

Full-power analog stations appear in **boldface**. Full-power DTV operations are in *italics*. In Canada the distinction is blurred. Kenora, Ontario has a 123kw relay station,

and a full-license station running 180 watts. I arbitrarily mark VHF stations of more than 1kw, and UHF of more than 50kw, as [full-power](#).

Call letters are as assigned by the FCC/CRTC. If you see [ANEW](#) here, it means call letters haven't been assigned yet. Likewise, if you see a date ([A960920YP](#)).

The two-letter codes like [ANW](#) and [APG](#) are listed at the top of the column. They're the same codes used in *FM News*, with a few additions. Often, a single application/grant will include more than one type of change. I may combine changes. ([AQC](#) from ch. 18, 960w, 38-31-05/113-17-03", which means the station is changing channel, power, and tower location simultaneously) Hopefully it's obvious what's going on.

[ANW](#) listings appear when a station is believed to be on the air. This may be the result of DXers seeing the station. It may also be the result of the station applying for, or receiving, a [license to cover](#). This license can only be requested after the transmitter has been operated to complete technical measurements. The license application is often accompanied by a request for interim permission to begin regular operations, and such permission is usually granted. So you can reasonably assume a station that's requested a license is either on the air, or will begin operation within a few weeks at the most.

Similarly, [AQC](#) appears either when DXers notice the station on its new channel, or when the station requests or receives a license for the change. [APC](#) and [AXC](#) usually appear only when a license is requested - it's usually difficult for DXers to know whether a power/tower site change has happened. There are occasional exceptions, and sometimes DXers have [inside information](#) about changes.

Full-power stations can only operate on channels that have been [allotted](#) to their proposed city of license. Quite a few DTV stations have found they could more advantageously operate on a different channel. They file proposals to amend the allotment table ([APA](#)). If the FCC concurs, the amendments are granted. ([AGA](#)) The station can now apply for a permit to move their DTV operation to the new channel. Far less common, an existing station may apply to move to a different city. (In fact, this month's

WHNS-21 application is the first such application I recall for a full-license station in at least five years) Again, an amendment must be proposed (this time changing the city, not the channel) and granted.

When power and/or tower height are changing, I attempt to indicate whether coverage will increase (APG>@) or decrease (APG<A). Sometimes it's hard to tell, for example if a station reduces power but goes to a taller tower at the same time. In those cases I just enter APG@. Powers are marked as either watts (w) or kilowatts (kw). Tower heights are meters. I know some members aren't fond of the metric system, but that's what both the FCC and Industry Canada use. If you really want feet, multiply by 3 and add 10%. Tower location is degrees-minutes-seconds north, then degrees-minutes-seconds west. Some applications now show fractional seconds (36-02-07.8). I round these off. A tenth of a second is on the order of 30cm (1'), I don't think anyone's going to miss it!

It is far more common for low-power stations to change city than full-power. Either way, when this happens the change is listed under the new city. Indication is made of where the station is moving from.

ADismissed@ means an application was not granted. AROA@ indicates that the applicant changed their mind - asked the FCC to not act on their request. Often this means they've determined the requested facilities can't be built, or they've found a better site. Applications near the borders must be approved by the Canadian or Mexican governments; when this approval isn't given, it's so indicated. Sometimes an application

will be marked as dismissed because of a specific FCC regulation. When this happens I'll enter the number of the regulation in question, and try to explain it at the end of the column. Changes may also be Arescinded@. In this case the change has already been granted, but additional information has come along which caused the FCC to change its mind.

People often ask what a A-CA@ station is. These are AClass A@ TV stations. From a technical standpoint, they're the same thing as a A-LP@ low-power station. A LPTV which meets certain programming requirements (including some local origination) may qualify for Class A status. When this status is granted, the station is protected from interference from new full-power stations, (analog or digital) or from technical changes to existing stations. However, the original DTV allocation table does have priority over Class A status, so quite a few Class A stations are being bumped anyway.

Most information in *TV News* comes from the Public Notices of the FCC. Notices used generally begin around the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month before deadline, i.e. 45 days before the date on the cover of the *VUD*. For example, I'm writing this column on December 17, and it uses Public Notices dated between November 19<sup>th</sup> and today. Most Canadian information comes from the CRTC AWhat's New@ pages, with the same dates as the FCC information. Information on programming changes usually comes from you, the readers.

Please feel free to send any questions (or information!) at the address at the top of the column. Happy New Year!



# TV NEWS SPECIAL REPORT

By Doug Smith

## WSTE-7 Ponce, PR “Unitary License” request

Right at my deadline the FCC released comments on a request from WSTE-7 Ponce, Puerto Rico for a special “unitary” license.

In theory, a single transmitter site could cover all of Puerto Rico with a Grade B signal - and everything except the extreme eastern end (east of Carolina and Maunabo) with a city-grade signal. However, Puerto Rico is a rather mountainous island. (As you can tell from the extreme antenna heights above average terrain!) The island’s major cities lie along the seacoasts - on low ground. In practice, no single site covers it all.

Many stations attempt to cover the island by creating networks. Several stations simulcast, each reaching a major city and some of the nearby territory. WSTE decided to try something else.

WSTE’s original site was roughly 9 kilometers northeast of the city. (See the map) With 186kw at 826m above average terrain the theoretical Grade B signal would cover the entire island, and the city-grade signal most of it. The measured signal was something very different. The claimed Grade B signal reached only as far as Arroyo in the east, and fell short of Mayaguez in the west. Arecibo and San Juan were also outside the station’s coverage.

In 1986, the FCC authorized WSTE to establish three experimental boosters. WSTE-1 is located south of San Juan; WSTE-2 north of Mayaguez; and WSTE-3 on the west side of Arecibo. Additionally, an auxiliary backup transmitter was authorized on the west side of the city of Ponce proper. The Commission authorized WSTE to leave their main transmitter turned off and to operate the backup transmitter instead.

It would appear the scheme worked well. In 1992 regulations 73.1675(a) (prohibiting the coverage area of a backup transmitter from exceeding that of the main transmitter in any direction) and 74.735(d) (limiting TV boosters to 100 watts output power) were waived.

A backup transmitter can only be operated if there’s a main transmitter to back up. WSTE could modify their license to make the backup transmitter the main. However, boosters can

only be authorized within the predicted (not measured) Grade B contour of the primary station. The Ponce backup transmitter wouldn’t reach the other cities; if the backup was re-licensed as the main, the booster licenses would be cancelled.

What resulted.. was that WSTE was required to maintain an operational transmitter and antenna at their main site 9km north of Ponce. Even though they never operate that transmitter. (If they did, it would interfere with the boosters.) Wasteful and expensive.

WSTE is also concerned about the possibility a primary service - presumably someone’s DTV signal on channel 8 - could suffer interference from one of the boosters. As the boosters are secondary service, they would have to be closed in that event.

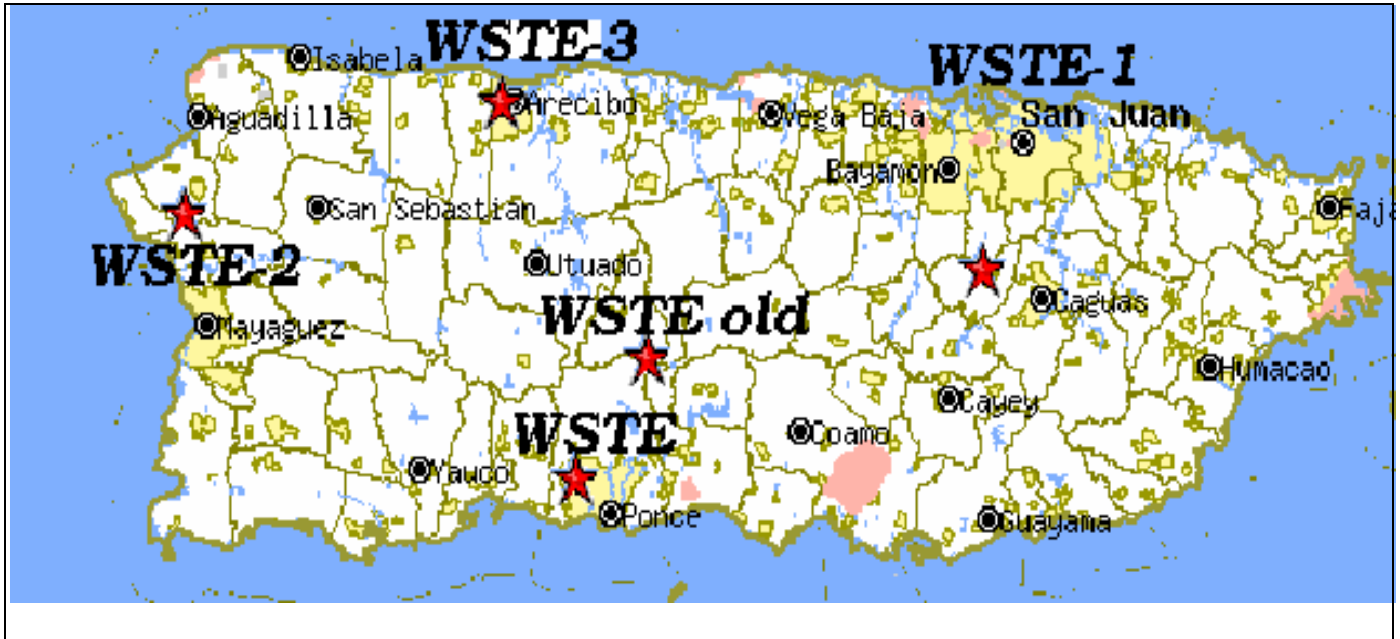
The station presents showings that operating the four separate transmitters would not preclude creation of any new DTV channel assignments nor prevent any outside-core DTV station from moving into core. If WSTE were required to return to its existing main transmitter, it would still prevent the use of channel 7 anywhere on the island. WSVI-8, at Christiansted in the Virgin Islands, would limit the use of channel 8 in Puerto Rico. So would the presence of WSUR on channel 9 at Ponce.

Siete Grande Television, WSTE’s licensee, has applied for a unique “unitary license”. Their request is that the FCC allow them to permanently close their original main transmitter, and then operate the Ponce backup transmitter and the San Juan, Mayaguez, and Arecibo boosters, under a single license. All four sites would be protected from interference.

The FCC Media Bureau sees merit in the application; they’re soliciting comments from interested parties. (The due date is January 10; hurry!)

This map shows the locations of the original main transmitter (“WSTE old”); the Ponce auxiliary transmitter (“WSTE”); and the three boosters. (“WSTE-1”, “WSTE-2”, and “WSTE-3”)

(Continued next page)



For reference, the facilities of the transmitters:

<u>Site</u>	<u>Callsign</u>	<u>Offset</u>	<u>ERP</u>	<u>HAAT</u>	<u>North</u>	<u>West</u>
Ponce (aux)	WSTE	plus	100kw	81m	18-01-46	66-38-09
San Juan	WSTE-1	zero	310kw	332m	18-16-29	66-06-49
Mayaguez	WSTE-2	minus	24.1kw	366m	18-19-25	67-10-27
Arecibo	WSTE-3	plus	1kw	28m	18-27-21	66-45-16
Ponce (main)	WSTE	plus	186kw	826m	18-09-17	66-33-16

Incidentally, the application also asks the Commission to authorize a unitary DTV license. If granted, all four sites would operate DTV transmitters on channel 66, WSTE's assigned DTV channel.

## NEW CATEGORIES IN FCC CDBS

While looking up a TV station in the CDBS database today, I noticed some new categories have been added to CDBS. Specifically, "AM Digital"; "FM Digital"; "FM Booster Digital"; and "FM Translator Digital".

Three "AM Digital" stations are listed - KXNT-1140 North Las Vegas, WSB-750 Atlanta, and WKDL-730 Alexandria, Virginia. KXNT is an application, the other two grants.

Apparently this is a work in progress as the three AMs and the seven FMs listed below all appear under the remaining three categories. The digital FMs listed:

- KKBT Los Angeles
- WALR Athens, Georgia (Atlanta)
- WFOX Gainesville, Georgia (Atlanta)
- WBTS Athens, Georgia (Atlanta)
- WSB-FM Atlanta
- WDMK Detroit
- WRAL Raleigh, N. Carolina

Obviously there are quite a few IBOC stations authorized for testing that aren't listed.



WTFDA...on the *cutting edge* of Digital Television DXing

# Antenna Talk

With Rich Wertman

As some of you know or don't know I have been working on designing a uhf parabolic dish. Channel Master and Antennacraft both discontinued their parabolics and we have been left with no reasonably priced antenna.

I have been using parts from defunct 7' c-band satellite dishes. So far the tests have been favorable, however I still need to reduce the windloading and weight to make it useable. Im also trying to figure out a way to ship it via UPS.

Since weather here has started to decline I decided to lower my 10' tripod on the house. On this tripod I had a 1970's Vhf Winegard Wedge and a Winegard prostar UHF yagi. I wanted to install a new 9515 rotor so I decided to make a few other improvements. I drilled out the feed connections on the VHF wedge and installed new brass screws which greatly increased the reception. I also wire brushed all electrical connections to increase continuity. The results were very noticeable. I also decided to replace the 9032 uhf with a C.M. 4 bay bowtie which I screened with one-quarter inch wire mesh. I took the Winegard cp-4800 amp (uhf 19db gain) that I had on the Prostar yagi and put it with the screened 4 bay. I put everything back up Saturday night. My results were that the 4 bay with screening and the cp-4800 amp were fair. Signal quality was up from non-screening, but only marginal. The beamwidth though was still very poor. I was hoping the screening would have helped. I guess the 4 bay simply has a good gain but squat for directivity. That is great if you don't live near a lot of locals. After seeing how all this compared to the 9032 yagi I felt the yagi had much better directivity. According to specs, the yagi is about 28-30 degree where the 4 bay was more like 50 degree width. Living where I do it was very noticeable. Channels 17/23/29 6 miles s/w with a few million watts each!!!!

I could not tolerate it so I decided to put the 9032 back up. While there looking at it I thought, "how can I make this show more gain and directivity?" I had a lot of front ends (power fronts) from Winegard Prostars so I decided to add 65" more to the front end directors. I spaced everything according to 9032 specs and ended up with a boom length of 181"! The actual length was 116". I also took a blank piece of one-inch square boom stock about 9 feet long and mounted it below

the main boom with u clamp and plastic supporters. (Had to do this since the far front end started drooping.) I also increased the reflector elements to 1 element every 2.5 ".

I just got everything back in the air last night. The cp-4800 amp was reinstalled as well. Results are still a bit preliminary but I can already tell adding the front end has increased my gain by approximately 3 db. I've also noticed a dramatic improvement on the beamwidth. This is especially noticeable with the local splatter!! Just some noticeables:

- CITY tv 57 Toronto. before hardly there now a 5 of 10 signal in the rain
- Chs 21/31 Rochester before a 2 of 10 now a 6-7 of 10 in the rain
- Ch 24 Syracuse before non existing. now a 2-3 in the rain.

Also I'm noticing much more scatter than before. Must say best thing I've see next to a parabolic. All channels seen above and all testing was done without any tropo conditions up and a lousy crappy day!

I'm going to try and get some photos up and into the VUD so you can all see this thing!! If you're familiar with uhf ham radio antennas, this thing looks like a 70cm uhf boomer!!! I may just start marketing one of these for people who don't mind a big yagi and also for people who can't have a dish. More tests will follow and I'll keep you all updated on progress of both the yagi and parabolic.

**R.W.SERVICE INC.  
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716-434-9216**



# Eastern TV-DX

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Eastern TV-DX is for reporters from the following states: AL, CT, DE, FL, GA, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, NC, NH, NJ, NY, OH, PA, RI, SC, TN, VA, VT and WV, plus Washington, DC. Also for reporters from the following Canadian provinces: NB, NF, NS, ON, PEI and PQ. Overseas reports welcome!

Saul Chernos, 57 Berkeley St., Toronto, ON M5A 2W5 Canada  
schernos@sympatico.ca  
(BR) = Burnt River (TO) = Toronto

8/10 tr (BR)				0128 CICA12-12	ON	Owen Sound
0130 WPXD-31	MI	Ann Arbor		9/17 tr (TO)		
0146 WANE-15	IN	Fort Wayne		0107 C???-44	ON	Toronto
0152 CBCE-16	ON	Little Current		9/18 tr (TO)		
8/29 tr (BR)				2210 W30AJ-30	NY	Syracuse
2205 CBLN6-44	ON	Normandale		2215 WBNX-55	OH	Akron
2345 WNLO-23	NY	Buffalo		2220 CKWS-11	ON	Kingston
2350 CBLFT14-32	ON	Kingston		2221 WQHS-61	OH	Cleveland
9/5 tr (TO)				2300 WNYFLP-28	NY	Watertown
2140 WSNS-44	IL	Chicago		2310 W59AU-59	NY	Utica
2141 WZPX-43	MI	Battle Creek		10/6 tr (BR)		
9/6 tr (TO)				1925 WESH-2	FL	Daytona Beach

Keith Smith, 910 N. Larch St. #7, Lansing, MI 48906-5228 (517) 485-7346 [vgmc@webtv.net](mailto:vgmc@webtv.net)  
[seventysixfifty@hotmail.com](mailto:seventysixfifty@hotmail.com)

10/10 tr				CBET-9	ON	Windsor	82
0752 WPBN-7	MI	Traverse City	121	WTVG-13	OH	Toledo	96
WGBA-26	WI	Green Bay	205	WTOL-11	OH	Toledo	95
WCMV-27	MI	Cadillac	104	0732 WDWB-20	MI	Detroit	65
WFQX-33	MI	Cadillac, Archies	105	CICO32-32	ON	Windsor	91
WGVU-35	MI	Grand Rapids	70	WHME-46	IN	South Bend	115
0758 WPNE-38	WI	Green Bay	208	0735 WQHS-61	OH	Cleveland	174
WACY-32	WI	Appleton	204	Top of hour had logo supered over Network ads. Is this a UNI O&O?			
0806 WLUK-11	WI	Green Bay	208	1003 CHWI-16	ON	Wheatley	115
WZZM-13	MI	Grand Rapids	104	1003 WFLD-32	IL	Chicago	168
0809 WGTU-29	MI	Traverse City	141	1006 CBEFT-54	ON	Windsor	91
10/11 tr				Also, unIDs 34 PBS w/"Dragon Tales" and 35 religious – WWTO?			
0730 WXYZ-7	MI	Detroit	69				

Eleven new ones for October... what luck! WPBN was picked up on the Westinghouse VHF utility band also; mighty strong. Not much ado in November.

Mike Bugaj, 69 Sherman Road, Enfield, CT 06082

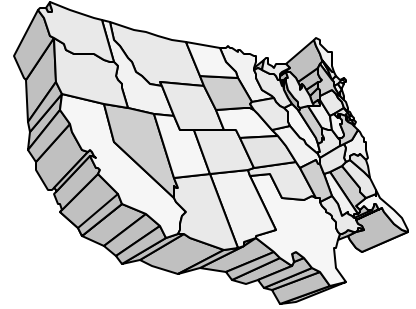
[mbugaj@snet.net](mailto:mbugaj@snet.net)

Installed a Hauggauge Win-TV D Card in my downstairs computer and here are all the DTVs I've heard so far: WTNH-DT-10, WWLP-DT-11, WFSB-DT-33, WHPX-DT-34, WCDC-DT-36, WCTX-DT-39, WEDN-DT-45, WGGB-DT-55 and WGBY-DT-58. WCDC, WHPX and WCTX are all in the 50-60 mile range. I'm waiting for the rest to come on the air so that UHF will REALLY be packed! These put me over the 300 seen mark.

Happy New Year! Let's hope for lots of DX in 2003. Please support this column; report your DX!

# Western TV DX

**VICTOR FRANK**  
**12450 SKYLINE BLVD.**  
**WOODSIDE, CA 94062-4554**  
**frank@horizon.sri.com**



**Dennis Park Smith**, 3605 San Remo Drive,  
 Santa Barbara, CA 93105-2523 (805)687-7803

This report is for November 2002. There was some southern California tropo activity (to San Diego/Tijuana, 200mi/320km) perhaps surprisingly, as conditions were mostly cool and unstable, with a few occasional stable days and a little warming.

Nov 1 am: None (Continuing from Oct. 17)  
 Nov 1 eve-4 am: Variably good (No inland heat, but stable high pressure)  
 Nov 4 eve-5 am: Poor  
 Nov 5 eve: Fair  
 Nov 6 am: Poor  
 Nov 6 eve: Fair to good  
 Nov 7 am: Poor (Nov 7-9 rain)  
 Nov 7 nite-13 am: None  
 Nov 13 eve: Good  
 Nov 14 – 16: None  
 Nov 17 am: Poor (Nov 16-19 hot temps)  
 Nov 17 eve-18: Fair  
 Nov 19-21: None  
 Nov 22: Fair  
 Nov 23: None  
 Nov 24: Poor  
 Nov 25-30: None (Nov 25-26 strong winds, warm)(Nov 29-30 rain spinning low)

The Nov 25-26 strong winds (up to 70 mph) were all over southern California, around us, south and north of here, but no wind at all in Santa Barbara. Were we blessed or what?

Best of DX to All. Dennis

**William Eckberg**, 1032 Sterling Rd., Dixon, IL 61021

November 2002	CST			
18 ms 0630	WDIQ	2	AL	727
	0645	KMID	2 TX	967
19 ms 0305	CKCK	2	SA	918
30 Es 1810	XHPN	3	CL	1100
	1820	WWL	4 LA	813
	1825	KPRC	2 TX	893
	1830	KBEJ	2 TX	952
	1955	WPBT	2 FL	1229
	2000	WEDU	3 FL	1031
	2100	WFOR	4 FL	1229
	2125	ICRT	2 CUBA	1344

The Leonids meteor shower created bursts every five seconds and many long multiple bursts. The peak was from 0200-0400 CST. Earlier at

2200 and after 0400, conditions were poor. Every station west of the Mississippi on the air, in the 500-1100 mile range, and on chs 2-4 was likely seen. Few bursts were to the east. Jay Leno, CBS news, Home Shopping, old movies, and color bars with no ID were seen. The lone ID was the distinctive TP of CKCK-2. Outside the sky was clear. A bright harvest moon was to the west. No meteor trails were evident.

The morning before, I saw Midland and Alabama Public Television ch 2 via ms. Semi-local Des Moines-5, Regina-2, and possibly APT-2 are the only lowband stations on all night with ID to my knowledge.

**Dave Pomeroy**, Topeka, Kansas

Pretty quiet here the last few months. The only thing new are a few new DTV's in the area. My DTV total is now 50. I did have the opportunity to visit Jesus Esperale in Havana in October when I was in Cuba on business. It was interesting to talk with him about TV-DX and see some of his video tapes of U.S. stations. He is an excellent artist and has duplicated many stations' IDs.

August 13, 2002

2230 tr WOWT-DT 22\* Omaha, NE 160

August 25

AM tr KSBI-DT 51\* Oklahoma City, OK 257  
 tuner left on channel 51, signal captured:  
 Program 1 KSBI Digital  
 Program 2 KSBI SD

October

GW WIBW-DT 44\* Topeka, KS 22  
 GW KCTV-DT 24\* Kansas City, MO 57

November 8

2200 tr KETV-DT 20\* Omaha, NE 160  
 KMEG-14 Sioux City, IA 244

November 9

0530 tr KWCH-DT 19\* Hutchinson, KS 132

November 12

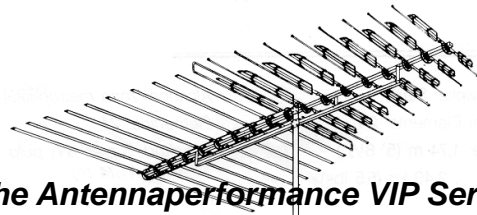
2200 tr KSAS-DT 26\* Wichita, KS 135

November 21

1930 tr KSNT-DT 28\* Topeka, KS 9

November 23

0805 tr KAAS-DT 17\* Salina, KS 94  
 0810 KWCH-DT 19 Hutchinson, KS 132  
 KAKE-DT 21 Wichita, KS 132



**The Antennaperformance VIP Series**

# SOUTHERN FM DX

For DXers in AL, AZ, AR, CA, CO, DE, DC, FL, GA, HI, KS, KY, LA, MD, MS, MO, NV,  
NM, NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WV, Cuba & Mexico

## January 2003

John Zondlo  
4009 Driftwood Circle  
Yukon, OK 73099  
sfm@fmdxweb.com  
Deadline: 15th

**Joe Kureth** – WPE3GPV – 2900 Uniontown Road – Uniontown, MD 21158-3553  
2000 Saturn car radio

8/9 Tr

1347 WPTF 94.9 VA Virginia Beach, "The Point" 198

8/25 Tr

0100 WQOK 97.5 VA South Boston, ID 240

8/27 Tr

1150 WKHK 95.3 VA Colonial Heights, ID, many ads 150

1205 WQJU 107.1 PA Mifflintown, state news, CL/WTLR 89.9 73

9/7 Tr

1325 WCYK 99.7 VA Staunton, "Country 99.7," CL, local ads 140

1627 WSBY 98.9 MD Salisbury, CL, rap mx format 120

1900 WRVL 88.3 VA Lynchburg, "Victory FM," Liberty University football 206

1901 WOSC 95.9 DE Bethany Beach, "96FM," CL, no sign of WWIN! 129

1924 WYFI 99.7 VA Norfolk, CL, "BBN Network" rel 197

1925 WCMS 100.5 VA Norfolk, CL, NASCAR report 197

1927 WRXL 102.1 VA Richmond, CL, NASCAR 139

1932 WKOE 106.3 NJ Ocean City, local beach ads 132

1935 WRDU 106.1 NC Wilson, CL, Duke football game 272

1952 WFPG 96.9 NJ Atlantic City, CL, calls used to mean "World's Favorite Playground" 142

1959 WIXM 93.7 NJ Millville, "Mix 97.3" 124

2300 WJSE 91.1 NJ Petersburg, ID, rel 133

2318 WMID 102.3 NJ Cape May, CL 126

9/8 Tr

0002 WSAX 99.3 NJ Pleasantville, CL 141

1100 WBEY 96.9 MD Chrisfield, ID, "The Bay" 130

1107 WRRK 96.9 PA Braddock, ID, heard years ago as WLOA-FM 160

1110 WROV 96.3 VA Martinsville, "96.3 ROV" 249

1128 WBOP 106.3 VA Churchville 148

1135 WPSK 107.1 VA Pulaski, CL, ads,

"NASCAR USA" program 266

1159 WYYD 107.9 VA Amherst, pulled out an ID thru WGTY 107.7 slop 192

1157 WFOS 88.7 VA Chesapeake, ID 203

1206 WTQR 104.1 NC Winston-Salem, many CL's, k 285

1209 WSOC 103.7 NC Charlotte, many CL's, k, these calls on FM go back to 1947 360

1222 WSSL 100.5 SC Gray Court, CL, "Whistle 100," k, once was WLBG-FM Laurens SC 443

1230 WZEZ 100.5 VA Goochland, ID, "Easy 100, this is your father's music" 142

1244 WKOC 93.7 VA Chesapeake, "The Coast" 216

1254 WMXB 103.7 VA Richmond, "B-103" 147

1835 WRXL 102.1 VA Richmond, "XL102" 139

9/25 Tr

0615 WBLS 107.5 NY New York

0620 WRDU 106.1 NC Wilson

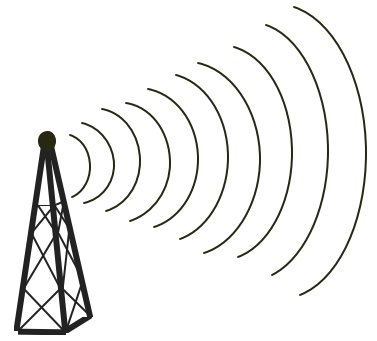
WSSL is a new tropo record for me, beating Myrtle Beach by 39 miles. WSSL, WSOC and WTQR were all in at local-like signals but quickly dropped out around 1230. 9/7 and 9/8 were probably the best tropo I can remember. 9/9 was probably good but I had to travel. Using the car's receiver, noticed by just moving it a few feet can greatly alter the signals that are received and this helped in logging many of the above new ones. My wife thinks I'm crazy, but she should know that by now about DXers. The Leonids Ms was a bust, with only 4 or 5 bursts noted. Didn't even see any visually.

(Only one report received this month. Let's hope for some Winter E-Skip and a little taste of tropo. See y'all next month).





# Northern FM DX



**Keith McGinnis**  
**387 Shirley Street, Winthrop, MA 02152**  
**longwave@attbi.com 617-846-5760**

For Dxers in the following states CT, IA, ID, IL, IN, MA, ME, MI, MN, MT, ND, NE, NH, NJ, NY, OH, OR, PA, RI, SD, VT, WA, WI, WY Please submit by the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. If possible please submit in the formats shown below.

## John Ebeling - Bloomington, MN.

ljebeling@aol.com

Equipment: Pioneer TX-9500 IF modified tuner in use along with a Stereo Probe 9, 25' AGL. Times are CST.

### SEPT 26 Tr

2102 K220HY 91.9 Spencer IA  
 (WNCB Duluth MN xltr) 145 miles  
 2244 K247AL102.7 Mankato MN  
 (WNCB Duluth MN xltr) 50

### SEPT 30 Tr

2256 K208DV 89.5 St. Cloud MN  
 "air one" 60

### NOV 12 Tr

2300 KLFN 106.5 Sunburg MN  
 (new station) 95

### NOV 19 Tr & Ms

0315 WGLR 97.7 Lancaster WI  
 (Tr) 189  
 0510 KTAG 97.9 Cody WY  
 (Ms) good id 773  
 0515 CHOM 97.7 Montreal PQ  
 "the temp in downtown Montreal is...." 963

From cabin @ Prosit, MN

### JULY 19 Tr

1800 KMKL 90.3 North Branch MN  
 2124 WNNO 106.9 Wisconsin Dells  
 WI 271  
 2221 KPHR 106.3 Ortonville MN  
 'power 106.3' 217

### SEPT 5 Tr

1704 WNCB 89.5 Duluth MN  
 (ex 89.3) 25

### NOV 2 Tr

1200 K209DS 89.7 Grand Rapids MN  
 39  
 1410 CFOB 93.1 Fort Francis ON

### NOV 16 Tr

1300 KLFN 106.5 Sunburg MN

### DEC 1 TR

1107 WZFJ 100.1 Pequot Lakes MN  
 "Z100" (new sta.) 85 miles

## SAUL CHERNOS - Burnt River and Toronto ON

57 Berkeley St. Toronto ON M5A2W5

416-364-0725 / 705-454-9636 / schernos@sympatico.ca

### AUG 9 Tr (BR)

2136 WBNO 100.9 Bryan OH

### AUG 10 Tr (BR)

0001 CJTK1 89.5 North Bay ON

0705 CJTT 104.5 New Liskeard ON  
 0743 CBF15 88.3 L'Annonciation PQ  
 0755 WZRT 97.1 Rutland VT  
 0825 CHIK 98.9 Quebec City PQ  
 0826 CIGB 102.3 Trois Rivieres PQ  
 0833 CBVE 104.7 Quebec City PQ

0844	CBF8 PQ	88.1	Trois Rivieres	1037	CIKR ON	105.7	Kingston		
0850	CIME PQ	103.9	Ste. Jerome	<u>AUG 28 Tr (BR)</u>					
0856	WYUL NY	94.7	Chateauguay	2327	WHCH MI	98.3	Munising		
0910	CJPX PQ	99.5	Montreal	2330	WOBE MI	100.7	Crystal Falls		
0915	CITF PQ	107.5	Quebec City	2315	WMQT MI	107.7	Ishpeming		
0918	WVPS VT	107.9	Burlington	2358	WPNE WI	89.3	Green Bay		
0930	CHOI PQ	98.1	Quebec City	<u>AUG 29 Tr (BR)</u>					
0939	CJMF PQ	93.3	Quebec City	0003	CBON26	90.3	Hearst	ON	
<u>AUG 12 MS (BR)</u>				0010	WIHC	97.9	Newberry	MI	
1149	WTBXt MN	93.9	Hibbing	0022	WJPD	92.3	Ishpeming	MI	
1323	WTBXt MN	93.9	Hibbing	0027	WRVM	102.7	Suring	WI	
1334	KTXY MO	106.9	Jefferson City	0038	WCMB MI	95.7	Oscoda		
1350	KYCK MN	97.1	Crookston	0146	WERG PA	89.9	Erie		
<u>AUG 13 MS (BR)</u>				0150	WPFf WI	90.5	Sturgeon Bay		
1845	CHJM PQ	99.7	St. Georges	0157	WYKX MI	104.7	Escanaba		
<u>AUG 15 Au (BR)</u>				0209	WRGX	88.5	Sturgeon Bay	WI	
1731	KOWZ MN	100.9	Blooming Prairie	0305	WLYD	99.7	Sturgeon Bay	WI	
<u>AUG 23 Tr (BR)</u>				0340	WJNR MI	101.5	Iron Mountain		
0030	WGGL MI	91.1	Houghton	0411	WLST WI	95.1	Marinette		
0052	WKLT MI	97.5	Kalkaska	0730	WDLm IL	89.3	East Moline		
<u>AUG 27 Tr (TO)</u>				0749	WSUE MI	101.3	Sault St Marie		
0743	WVCN MI	104.3	Baraga	0754	WCMM MI	102.5	Gulliver		
0754	WRJO WI	94.5	Eagle River	0825	CBON18	88.1	Sault St Marie		
0759	WWKN MI	104.9	Battle Creek	0830	WBLV MI	90.3	Twin Lake		
0802	WUPM MI	106.9	Ironwood	0837	CHAS ON	100.5	Sault St Marie		
0814	WIMI MI	99.7	Ironwood	1500	WPNE WI	89.3	Green Bay		
0900	WOBE MI	100.7	Crystal Falls	<u>AUG 30 Tr (BR)</u>					
0905	WCQM WI	98.3	Park Falls	0547	WTLI MI	89.3	Bear Creek Twnshp		
0920	WMQT MI	107.7	Ishpeming	0605	WMJZ MI	101.5	Gaylord		
0924	WKQS MI	101.9	Negaunee	1000	WBLV MI	90.3	Twin Lake		
<u>SEPT 4 Au (BR)</u>				2300	WCFX MI	95.3	Clare		
				0330	KOWZ MN	100.9	Blooming Prairie		
				0344	CKOI PQ	96.9	Verdun		

SEPT 5 Tr (TO)

2012 WIHC 97.9 Newberry MI  
 2200 WSJY 107.3 Ft Atkinson WI  
 2205 WFMR 106.9 Brookfield WI  
 2230 WXLX 104.9 Belvidere IL  
 2237 WTKM 104.9 Hartford WI  
 2240 WZOK 97.5 Rockford IL

SEPT 6 Tr (TO)

0101 WHAD 90.7 Delafield WI

SEPT 13 MS (BR)

0705 KNTN 102.7 Thief River Falls MN  
 0730 KXNE 89.3 Norfolk NE

SEPT 14 Tr (BR – BR Rapids)

0724 WMTX 102.7 Sandusky OH  
 1541 WBKX 96.5 Fredonia NY

SEPT 16 Tr (TO)

2015 104.9 Richmond Hill ON  
 Oldies pirate  
 2300 104.9 Richmond Hill ON  
 Separate stereo open carrier  
 2314 WWKN 104.9 Battle Creek MI  
 2315 WODJ 107.3 Greenville MI  
 2325 WFRN 104.7 Elkhart IN  
 2336 WLAV 96.9 Grand Rapids MI  
 2349 WSAE 106.9 Spring Arbor MI  
 2354 WCSG 91.3 Grand Rapids MI

SEPT 17 Tr (TO)

0000 WGNB 89.3 Zeeland MI  
 0008 WENS 97.1 Shelbyville IN  
 0010 WJIM 97.5 Lansing MI  
 0019 WERK 104.9 Muncie IN  
 0025 WOOD 105.7 Grand Rapids MI

0029 WGNR 97.9 Anderson IN  
 0038 WVIC 94.1 Jackson MI  
 0044 CKOI 96.9 Verdun PQ  
 0135 WCLS 100.7 Oscoda MI

OCT 6 Tr/GW (BR)

1326 CHLX 97.1 Ottawa ON

OCT 6 Es (BR)

1928 WRXK 96.1 Bonita Springs FL  
 1930 WDDV 92.1 Venice FL  
 1931 WOGK 93.7 Ocala FL  
 1934 WINK 96.9 Fort Myers FL  
 1935 WSKY 97.3 Micanopy FL  
 1937 WXTB 97.9 Clearwater FL  
 1939 WWRZ 98.3 Fort Meade FL  
 1941 WJBX 99.3 Ft Myers Beach FL  
 1943 WLLD 98.7 Holmes Beach FL  
 1946 WXXL 106.7 Tavares FL  
 1951 WNFB 94.3 Lake City FL  
 1955 WMFM 107.9 Key West FL  
 1957 WKEY 93.5 Key West FL  
 2000 WSMR 89.1 Sarasota FL

OCT 21 MS (BR)

1013 KSHE 94.7 Crestwood MO

Oct 22 MS (BR)

1053 KMFY 96.9 Grand Rapids MN

OCT 23 MS (BR)

0841 KZKX 96.9 Seward NE  
 0937 WBIO 94.7 Philpot KY

OCT 26 MS (BR)

1152 KIAK 96.9 Clarion IA

OCT 27 GW/Tr (TO)

1624 106.7 Richmond Hill ON  
Oz FM (NF) Pirate w/ apparent live  
feed

NOV 11 Tr (BR)

1009 WRRK 96.9 Braddock PA

NOV 18 GW/Tr (TO)

2010 LP 90.7 Vaughan  
ONRav-FM ex-106.3  
2035 107.5 Richmond Hill ON  
oldies pirate ex-104.9

NOV 19 MS (BR) (Leonids)

0229 WCYI 93.9 Lewiston ME  
0307 KSPQ 93.9 West Plains MO  
0329 KZPK 98.9 Paynesville MN  
0348 KOBC 90.7 Joplin MO  
0359 KXCV 90.5 Maryville MO  
0454 KSPQ 93.9 West Plains  
MO  
0516 CBHB 106.7 Mulgrave  
NS

0553 WSTZ 106.7 Vicksburg  
MS

0557 CBHB 106.7 Mulgrave  
NS

0600 KBOE 104.9 Oskaloosa  
IA

0602 CBHB 106.7 Mulgrave  
NS

0607 KSSZ 93.9 Fayette  
MO

0717 KCLD 104.7 St. Cloud  
MN

0917 KKLS 104.7 Sioux Falls  
SD

NOV 30 Es (TO)

1719 WJRR 101.1 Cocoa Beach  
FL

DEC 2 GW/Tr (TO)

1405 CF.. 106.5 Toronto  
ONAboriginal Voices Radio

TO means mobile in and around Toronto. BR is the same for Burnt River, which is 100 miles northeast of Toronto. Use a Sangean ATS909 portable with RDS, and a Toyota car radio. Highlights of 2002 include a couple monster Es openings in June and 11 separate stations logged during the Leonids meteor shower. Overall, 2002 had very few Es openings, and few tropo openings that went beyond 500 miles. Lots of shorter haul tropo, though. 73s, Saul

---

**Mike Bugaj – 69 Sherman Road – Enfield, CT -6-82 [mbugaj@snet.net](mailto:mbugaj@snet.net) using a Carver TX-11 modified, Onkyo T450 RDS modified, CM Probe9, APS13 and RDS Manager.**

Nov 2002

17<sup>th</sup> MS  
WXBQ-96.9 TN Bristol ...with 96-9 XBQ...

18<sup>th</sup> MS  
WHRK-97.1 TN Memphis ...you can get this  
money on Continuous Hits K097...

30<sup>th</sup> Es  
1616 WLWI 92.3 AL Birmingham I-92  
1622 WTUG 92.9 AL Tuscaloosa  
1626 WYSF 94.5 AL Birmingham  
1630 WTNT 94.9 FL Tallahassee "TNT"  
1630 WQHL 98.1 FL Live Oak "The Big 98",  
RDS WQHL 7FA9  
1644 WKUB 105.1 GA Blackshear RDS  
WKUB, 7119  
1649 WZNF 95.3 MS Lumberton, ...the new Z  
at 95-3...

1650 WUSJ 96.3 MS Jackson US96.3 country  
1655 WNSL 100.3 MS Laural, RDS 78D8, SL-  
100 Shoneys adv.  
1726 WYNK 101.5 LA Baton Rouge, the Mall  
of Louisiana adv.  
1732 WSMR 89.1 FL Sarasota, Life FM  
1735 WSJT 94.1 FL Lakeland, smooth jazz  
1737 WKTK 98.5 FL Crystal River  
1740 WSOL 101.5 GA Brunswick, V101.5, rap  
1744 WWSN 103.3 GA Waycross, Sunny 103  
1747 WTBT 103.5 FL Bradenton RDS WTBT,  
Thunder 103-5  
1752 WCFB 94.5 FL Daytona Beach, Star 94-5  
1758 WWRM 94.9 FL Tampa magic 94.9  
1800 WJXR 92.1 FL Macclenny, shopping  
type program  
1900 WDDV 92.1 FL Venice

Looking forward to more of this midwinter Es.

January 2003

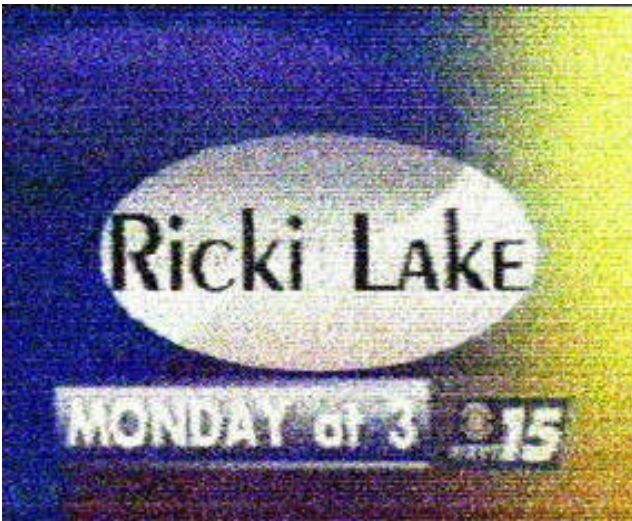
We continue with more photos from Girard Westerberg, Lexington, KY:



WPMI-15 Mobile, AL  
539 mi Tr seen 1/27/02



KTVI-DT-43 St. Louis, MO  
322 mi Tr seen 3/13/02



WXVT-15 Greenville, MS  
459 mi Tr seen 3/30/02



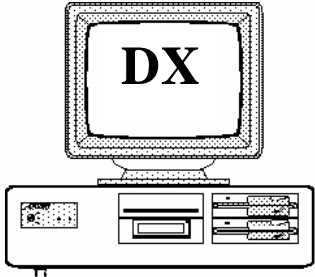
KIII-3 Corpus Christi, TX  
1042 mi Es seen 6/12/02



WFOR-4, Miami, FL  
866 mi Es seen 6/12/02



CHBX-2 Saulte Ste. Marie, ON  
595 mi Es seen 6/14/02



# WTFDA://ON-LINE

Saul Chernos, 57 Berkeley Street, Toronto, ON M5A 2W5  
schernos@sympatico.ca

Saul Chernos – schernos@sympatico.ca / 416-364-0725

[www.fcc.gov](http://www.fcc.gov)

Due to ongoing trouble with what carpal tunnel syndrome (a form of repetitive strain injury), this will be my final wtfda://online column. I've decided to minimize the time I spend at the computer. Hopefully someone else will take this column on.

Lots of stuff has come my way via the various DX club e-mail lists. It's all worth sharing here. My thanks to those who cared enough to pass on these tips, and who have contributed to previous issues.

[www.qsl.net/w3otc](http://www.qsl.net/w3otc)

Following a request to the WTFDA e-mail list, a few DXers checked in with software tools and e-mail sites they use to measure distances between DXers and stations heard. Fred Laun in MD and Jim Thomas in CO use the TV FM Database Viewer, a dos-based program written by Robert J. Carpenter (W3OTC). It downloads the FCC's most current database. When you open the program, enter STATE then CITY. It then returns all fields based on your longitude and latitude. As you scroll through a TV channel or FM frequency and read the most current listings alphabetically, one column shows the distance from your latitude / longitude to that of the TV or radio station's tower, so the mileage calculated is precise and not just from city to city.

[www.radiostation.com/kodis](http://www.radiostation.com/kodis)

Guy Falsetti in NY recommends John Kodis' Broadcast Station Location Page. Enter basic information and get a list of all stations within a radius, complete with power, antenna, polarity, heading, location and individual distances to you. It's not as accurate as some other methods some use, but it's free, easy to use and you can print a list for future reference.

[www.indo.com/distance](http://www.indo.com/distance)

Mike Hawk in NE and Russ Edmunds in PA recommend a site that offers rough estimates on distances. You do not need to know the latitude or longitude offhand, and it takes simple city names. It seems to lack data for some smaller cities in countries other than the U.S. and Canada. But it's reputed to be simple and fast.

Matt Sittel in NE uses the great circle calculations he has within an Excel spreadsheet, into which he's programmed the calculations. "Just this past weekend I downloaded the FCC FM database and calculated my exact distances to each transmitter. So now, when I log something new, I can just go look it up in the spreadsheet – plus I have all the updated calls.

Matt says the spreadsheet is 12 megabytes and is reasonably easy to extract. Go to the FCC site and choose the 'extract by call letters' option from the site's search routine. He entered 'K' and 'W' and got all calls beginning with each, and then saved it all as a text file with pipes separating each field. Finally, he reformatted it in Excel and added the calculation formulae. Matt says he dumped some of the columns to save space.

<http://software.w9wi.com/dxcalc.xls>

Doug Smith of TN says he has placed a copy of his spreadsheet on his web site. He uses it both as a log and a distance calculator. Doug says there are various formulas and software examples for radio calculations. If you use his spreadsheet, he recommends using the 'Fill Down' menu function to expand it beyond the five stations in the example. Doug's site also has TV transmitter coordinates.

[www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/audio2?x=tvq.html](http://www.fcc.gov/fcc-bin/audio2?x=tvq.html)

This is a valuable web site for getting the necessary geographic coordinates of TV stations.

[www.fcc.gov/mb/audio/fmq.html](http://www.fcc.gov/mb/audio/fmq.html)

This is the equivalent for FM.

<http://spectrum.ic.gc.ca/infoback/dgse/dbf/baserad.zip>

This Canadian site contains a number of .DBF files, including one each for FM and TV stations. Most spreadsheets can read these files. You can thus obtain coordinates for Canadian stations.

In other news...

[www.time.gov/timezone.cgi?Central/d/\\_6/java](http://www.time.gov/timezone.cgi?Central/d/_6/java)

Neil Kazaross of IL sends word of a sunrise-sunset map online. While it is useful for AM

DX, it also has an accurate clock. The following link will take you to the central time zone. Change the -6 to 15 and you have eastern time. And so forth.

[www.fcc.gov/mb/audio/status/silent.html](http://www.fcc.gov/mb/audio/status/silent.html)

Patrick Griffith of CO tells about a page on the FCC web site that lists stations that have been off-air for at least six months. The site says how long the station has been silent. This is especially useful because it's one way to find out if something you don't always hear but has been a pest happens to be down. That's the case for me with WWJS 90.1 in Watertown NY. It's been off since January 2002, and now I know I should be checking that frequency.

[www.iprimus.ca/~hepburn/tropo.html](http://www.iprimus.ca/~hepburn/tropo.html)

Bill Hepburn of Toronto offers some new advice to help read his tropo maps in the mid latitudes: "Tropo is usually produced around stagnant high pressure systems, thus most Tropo areas are slow-moving. However now that we are getting into the true fall season tropo areas aren't as slow-moving and sometimes can move a bit quicker. (The same applies to the spring season). "It might be worth checking the 0600Z (Z stands for Zulu) map once in a while if appears that tropo areas are moving west to east as the days go by. I know that it is a bit awkward to check the two maps this way – switching between eastern North America and the North Atlantic (I would like to include a 0600Z eastern North America map but that would stretch my resources too far. Using bookmarks or designing your own personal .html page linking to individual tropo maps should work."

[www.desktopdoppler.com](http://www.desktopdoppler.com)

Speaking of weather and tropo, check out this site with Doppler weather predictions. DesktopDoppler provides 'always on' automated storm detection for any location in the USA, including Alaska, Hawaii, Guam, and Puerto Rico. It's billed like having a live NEXRAD Doppler right in your computer. The only hitch is there's a 30-day free trial. Thanks to Jerry Rappel in IA for the tip.

[rdsforum-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:rdsforum-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

Jerry also tells us that Yahoo offers a Radio Data System (RDS) forum.

[www.fcc.gov/searchtools.html](http://www.fcc.gov/searchtools.html)

Russ Edmunds in PA tells us the FCC has updated its addresses for station lists and queries. Well, in the few months between receiving Russ' e-mail and writing this column, the FCC has simplified the process even further. TV, FM and AM searches can all be done from a single site. There's also all kinds of other data.

[www.why.org/91FM/antenna1.html](http://www.why.org/91FM/antenna1.html)

Looking for a transmitter tower with a great vista? Bob Smolarek of NJ sent in the above URL.

[http://antwrp.gsfc.nasa.gov/apod/image/0011/earthlights\\_dmsp\\_big.jpg](http://antwrp.gsfc.nasa.gov/apod/image/0011/earthlights_dmsp_big.jpg)

This isn't an DX site, per se, but it's a treat for any FM or TV DXer. We thank Jeff Kadet for this world view and recommend you check it out after you get a good long-haul skip opening. Nothing like perspective.

[www.yes.net](http://www.yes.net)

Mike Bugaj in CT and Mike Hawk of NE tell of a neat site that helps ID stations by identifying the music being played. First select a city and then a station. Yes.net will tell you the artist and the name of the song being played at that time. This will answer questions like "Hey, what song is WSLC playing right now?" Station listings within a metro area are often incomplete – for instance, Omaha's listing doesn't include 97.7, 101.9, or 106.9. Some medium markets are not included at all – for instance, the eight commercial stations in the Lincoln NE market are not listed. Sometimes the information is close to real-time, other times it is delayed 10 to 30 minutes. Mike says the information has usually been accurate, though one evening local KEZO was listed playing R&B songs, which was totally wrong. He suggests this may be an anomaly. "Given the incompleteness, the number of satellite parallels, and likelihood that those pop stations with 20 song play-lists happen to play the same song at the same time, I would only use yes.net as a 'nail in the coffin' when ID'ing stations – i.e. if I had a slogan and/or good local ads, local weather, or something similar.

[www.MakeAShorterLink.com](http://www.MakeAShorterLink.com)

Tired of posting web addresses that are so horribly long no one can open them straight from the browser? John Holcomb in PA recommends a web site that allows you to use a shorter address to post long URLs. Paste in the long link and hit the 'MakeAShorterLink!' button, and voila! It makes the link short enough to copy it into the text of an e-mail message. Readers can then hit the link instead of having to cut and paste.

[www.icomamerica.com/downloads/usgridsq.pdf](http://www.icomamerica.com/downloads/usgridsq.pdf) and

[www.qsl.net/vhfnews/grid-na.gif](http://www.qsl.net/vhfnews/grid-na.gif)

Listen to the 28 MHz ham bands to watch for early signs of e-skip? Toronto DXer and ham Bob Chandler says a copy of the Canada / U.S. grid square map can be found online. "What you might want to do is to print out a copy of the grid map and stick a copy into your FM Atlas for reference," Bob writes.

[www.qrz.com](http://www.qrz.com)

If you want to look up a ham call sign, Bob recommends the QRZ call-sign server, which he says is pretty quick even with a slow connection. Bob reports hearing K0MQS in Grid EN31 (Iowa) by tropo on 144 MHz when Rick Shaftan in NJ was getting that area. Last night on 144 MHz. He also worked W9IE in EN60 Indiana. So, lots of reasons to know your grids if you're monitoring conditions using ham frequencies.

Well, that does it. Keep on surfing!

73s, Saul



# SATELLITE NEWS

George W. Jensen  
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SCISATMAN@AOL.COM

This month will focus on some additions and deletions.

**Satcom C4** - add - 600 - Discovery East HDTV Galaxy 1 - 152 - Starz Theater East and 603 - Goodlife TV Network - delete their analogue signal that was on xpdr 22.

**Satcom C3** - add - 4 - Lifetime. 615 should read - Discovery Home and Leisure and 800 is MTV 2.

On **Telstar 7** - delete Playboy in VC2 as well as audio-subcarrier of KLON - Long Beach. New is 970 - Playboy Director's Cut. Galaxy 5 - delete World Radio Network services - these are now elsewhere in MPEG2.

On **Galaxy 10** - change Guthy-Renker 4 from 782 to 783. There are changes in the DMX Lineup - 839 - now Regional Mexican, 842 - now Tejano, 860 - now Fiesta.

**AMC 1** - delete 22 - Deutches Welle as well as 750 and 751 - Telemundo East and West. Add the following - 410 - Fox Sports 3, 603 - Wisdom, 750 - GOL TV, 752 - Test Card. On the Ku side - delete 780 - America's Collectibles Network.

**AMC 4** - 17 - Skyvision Feeds.

**Galaxy 4** - KuBand - delete - 401 - Outdoor Life Network, 583 - Bloomberg, 604 - America's Health and 620 - Toon Disney  
**Telstar 5** - 16 - Telecentro - Ch 3 - Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. 603 - Nebraska PBS HDTV, 610 through 617 - Nebraska Public Television Instructional feeds.

**Galaxy 11** - Add the following - 500 ???, 602 VTV - Varsity Television, 604 - KUMD Ch 31 - Los Angeles, 605 - KJLA - Los Angeles, Cal. and 680 - Church Channel Also 800 - SET, 801 - ???, and 802 - Crawford Communications.

**Telstar 402** - add - transponder 9 - Golden Sports.

**AMC3** - delete transponder 24 - America One.

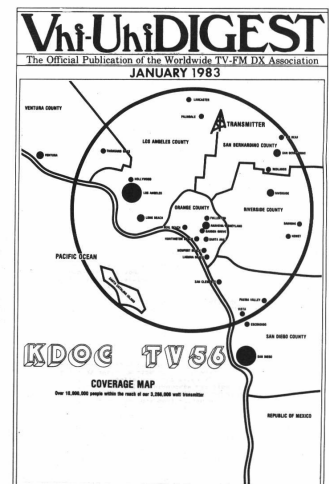
**Panamsat 9** - All that is left of the 4dvt digicipher signals are the following 712, 713, 714 and 715 - The Caracas Radio Stations and the DMX Music Service now plotted at 800 through 849. That's all for this month - Happy New Year and see you in 30.

*George*

## TWENTY YEARS AGO THIS MONTH!

The January 1983 VUD featured a coverage map of KDOC on its cover. This VUD marked Bill Thompson's first publishing effort. It also began Dave Nieman's tenure as Editor-in-Chief and was the first VUD printed in Buffalo.

**Classic VUDs on CD. Are you interested??**





# FM NEWS

Steven C. Wiseblood  
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Brownsville, TX 78521  
stevenwisebl@hotmail.com



## ABBREVIATIONS:

AFA: American Family Association  
CC: **call letter** change&: satellite programming  
CL: **city of license** change  
CX: a **construction permit** has been **canceled**  
C1,C2,etc: a change in status to that  
FM license **class**  
DA: **directional antenna**  
DE: station has been **deleted**  
FC: **format change**  
GA: **granted amendment** to the table of  
FM allocations  
GE: **granted extension** of construction permit  
GX: **granted replacement** of expired permit  
LC: **license to cover** filed  
(means station is ready to come on air)  
MC: **multiple-city** legal ID  
NC: **no change** yet on a reported change/permit

ND: **non-directional** antenna  
NO: **not on the air**  
NS: **new station** granted  
NW: **new station** signs on  
OSA: **one-step application** granted for change  
PA: **proposed amendment** to change FM  
table of allocation  
PC: **power change** on the air (“>” for increase,  
“<” for decrease, when known)  
PG: **power change** granted (“>” for increase,  
“<” for decrease, when known)  
QC: **frequency change** occurred  
QG: **frequency change** granted  
RA: silent station **returns to air**  
RE: station **requests extension** on permit  
RX: station **requests replacement** of expired permit  
SG: **slogan change** or update  
SI: **station is silent**  
XA: **dismissed amendment** to FM allocations  
XC: **transmitter site change** occurred  
XG: **transmitter site change** granted



## ARIZONA:

Kingman: KRRN 92.7 CC (ex KRCY)  
Parker: KRIT 93.9 NW

## ARKANSAS:

Augusta: KABK 97.7 NW  
Blytheville: KOUX 91.5 NW  
Des Arc: KFLI 104.7 NW  
Fayetteville: KKEG 92.1, FC to modern rock,  
SC to "**92.1 the Zone**"  
Lake Village: KZYQ 103.5 FC to oldies  
Nashville: KSSW 96.9 CC (ex KNDQ)  
Pangburn: KSMD 99.1 NW, AC, "**Diamond 99.1**" .

## CALIFORNIA:

Baker: KHRQ 94.9 NW, rock, "The Drive"  
Holtville: KGBA 100.1 LC  
Temecula: KMYT 94.5 CC (ex KOGO), //KMYI 94.1,  
FC 80s/90s mix

## FLORIDA:

Gifford: WAVW 94.7 FC to hot AC  
Graceville: WTOT 101.7 CC (ex WYDA)  
Port St. Lucie: WZZR 92.7 FC to modern country  
Riviera Beach: WWLV 94.3 FC to news-talk  
West Palm Beach: WRLX 92.1 FC to Smooth Jazz

## ILLINOIS:

Chicago: WNND 100.3 FC to go 80s-90s AC oldies  
Genoa: WYCH 106.3 LC  
Spring Valley: 88.1 WSOG . NW Religion, EWTN  
White Hall: WRLJ 88.3 NW, REL/Cont Christian  
//WLWJ  
Zion: WTNX 96.9 FC to Classic Rock

## INDIANA:

Plymouth: WRXH 89.3 NW

## IOWA:

Carroll: KWOI 90.7, NW, //KTPR 91.1 Fort Dodge  
(Iowa State University Public Radio)  
Council Bluffs: KQKQ 98.5 MHZ LC  
Postville: KPVL 89.1 NW

## KANSAS:

Galena: KCAR 104.3 FC to Classic Rock (Joplin, MO)

## LOUISIANA:

.Vivian: KNCB 105.3, LC

## MICHIGAN:

Pinnconning: 104.1 WSAG NW, oldies

## MINNESOTA:

New Prague: KRDS 95.5 SC to "**Maxx 95.5**",  
oldies mix (Northfield)  
Pequot Lakes: WZPJ 100.1 NW, Christian rock.

## MISSISSIPPI:

Port Gibson: WRTM 100.5, LC

## MISSOURI:

Bismarck: KHCR 99.5 NW  
Centralia: KMFC 92.1 RA, Contemp.Christian  
Poplar Bluff : KPPL 92.5 NW, country  
Potosi KHZR 97.7 CC (ex KHCR)

## MONTANA:

Hamilton: KMZO 90.3 LC  
Helena: KHLV 90.1 NW

## NEBRASKA:

Omaha: KSRZ 104.5 LC

## **NEVADA:**

Indian Springs: KQMR 99.3 FC to Spanish AC  
as "**Amor**" (Las Vegas)  
Las Vegas: KQRT 105.1 CC (ex KRRN)  
FC to regional Mexican "**Radio Tricolor**"

## **NEW MEXICO:**

Angel Fire: KXMT 99.1 CC (ex KKIT)  
Lordsburg: KWNM 105.5 NW, country  
Taos: KKIT 99.9 CC (ex KXMT)

## **OHIO:**

Cleveland: WCSB 89.3 FC to variety  
Portsmouth: WZZZ 107.5 CC (ex WNPM)

## **OKLAHOMA:**

Bethany: KQBL 104.9 , FC to sports, //WWLS 640  
Moore  
Kingfisher: WWLS 105.3 FC to modern rock

## **PENNSYLVANIA:**

Chambersburg: WZZQ 88.3 NW  
Olyphant: WBHD 95.7 CC (ex WEOZ), //WBHT 97.1  
West Philadelphia: WPEB 88.1 LC

## **SOUTH CAROLINA:**

Murrells Inlet: WYEZ 94.5 LC

## **TEXAS:**

Campbell: KRVA 107.1 RA, oldies  
Kerens: KRVF 106.9 RA, oldies  
Odessa: KHKX 99.1, LC  
Robstown: KMIQ 104.9 QC (ex 105.1)  
Staunton: KFRI 88.1 NW

## **UTAH:**

Roy: KUDD 107.9 LC

## **WASHINGTON:**

Cle Elum: KXAA 93.7 NW classic rock  
College Place: KGTS 91.3, LC  
Mount Vernon: KMWS 90.1 CC (ex KSVR)  
Mount Vernon: KSVR 91.7 CC (ex KMWS)  
Yakima: KYPL 91.1, LC

## **WISCONSIN:**

Berlin: 104.7 WBJZ, FC to C&W,  
SC "**B-104.7**"  
Wautoma: WAUH 102.3 FC to Classic rock

## **VIRGIN ISLANDS:**

Charlotte Amalie: WZIN 104.3, CC (ex WVPI)

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## **COMPATABLE COLOR'S 49<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY!**

FCC approval of the NTSC color system, which brought us green faces for years, came on Dec. 17, 1953. NBC was on the air with the NBC Chimes slide in color minutes after, and CBS had a short studio program in the late afternoon.

Nobody had a set yet, but it was a start. NBC followed up with a color Christmas episode of Dragnet and a live production of "Ahmal and the Night Visitors" in the following week, but the big attention came from the live "colorcast" of the Rose Parade on Jan. 1, 1954, with NBC's new two-camera mobile unit. The peacock came along a few years later. (The Rose Bowl Game itself wasn't televised in color until the early 1960s.)

*(Posted by Tim Cronin on the WTFDA List)*

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## **WHAT DO YOUR LOGS LOOK LIKE?**

By John Ebeling

My log books are as follows;

Bloomington & Prosit MN: All stations are written on my specially designed loose leaf sheets of paper as received. Columns are: Freq; Call sign; City & state; Tape reference; Date; Time & Type of reception. Space is also left for indicating a duplicate station after checking.

I use a 'master log' where all stations are listed by freq, calls & location. All entries are by hand. Bloomington reception is in black, with Prosit indicated in red.

In addition, all Bloomington reception is listed by states in a separate log book using a typewriter!. Remember, this log was started LONG before computers existed. Besides, it is failure proof!

That's the way it has been for over 50 years, & that's the way it will continue. I don't want to possibly lose anything using the computer as a master.

# TUNER ALIGNMENT TEST AND THEORY

Chuck Rippel

*I have a Pioneer TX-9800 that is excess to my needs up on E-Bay right now. I wrote a bidder a note and excerpted part of that to post it in the TUNER section of Yahoo and here in hopes that it might help someone.*

*What I cover here is fairly generic with most tuners save for those such as the Yamaha T-85/R1000 /R100/etc.. any of them that use the "Charge Pump" AFC and "Zero Point Cross" discriminator family and probably the Carvers.*

*If you have any questions, please feel free to drop me a note.*

*-Chuck-*

## **Few 9800's work right.**

You have probably noted that on the front panel, there are 2 indicators, "TUNE" and "LOCKED". That circuit is seldom set up properly and drifts with age.

What that circuit reacts to is a null in the discriminator offset. In all tuners, that null should also be coincident with the point of lowest distortion (established in part, by the adjustment of the discriminator secondary).

In this tuner, that circuit works correctly and its clearly audible. Slowly tune through the station, the red "TUNE" indicator will illuminate and the "LOCKED" indicator will illuminate when you release the tuning control. The tuner is at the point of least distortion. The AFC will then maintain lock at that point.

Since you are a tuner fan, here is a test you can use on ANY tuner with a center-tune meter to see if its aligned properly.

Set the dial to receiver around 98.0'ish. Remove the antenna input feed and place the wires far away from the tuner. With the tuner in Stereo and Mute, note where the center tuning meter is indicating. The Center Tune meter should indicate dead center. If not, its probably mechanically out of adjustment because in mute mode and no signal present, its not measuring any discriminator offset voltage because there is none.

(Note: With Pioneer Tuners, the word Pioneer is written across the top of the meter scale. The ascending far right vertical component of the letter "N" in PioNeer is meter center. (That is the reference by which they could quickly set them up in the factory).

Ok, turn the MUTE off. It means that the receiver is switched out of stereo, thats ok. Tune a little each way and make SURE that is NO remnant of a station EVEN close to the frequency you are on; if there is, you'll see the center-tune meter deflect as you tune through it.

I cannot over emphasize enough that there cannot be a weak station, computer noise or any other signal on or close to your test frequency.

When you turn the MUTE off, watch the Center Tune meter. If it deflects and settles either way to one side, with the tuner receiving pure background band noise, the discriminator is not set up properly and the tuner probably is receiving albeit with significant distortion. Some cases it can be as high as 1% + depending on the discriminator error.

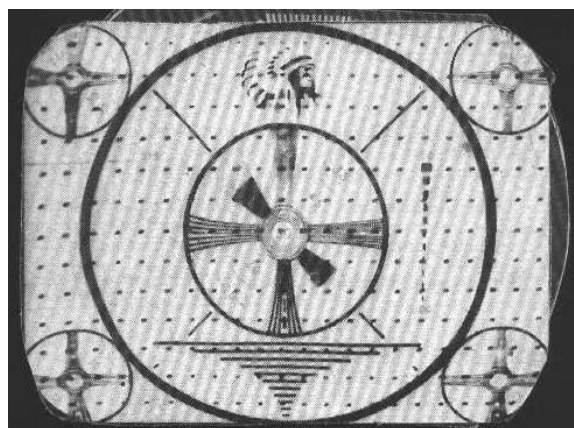
With a digital tuner, the routine is the same except that there will usually be 2 internal test points to connect a very high impedance DMM between to measure and eventually set the discriminator offset to zero.

Its at that point the tuner must be at least have the discriminator re-aligned but preferably, the entire tuner. I prefer the circa early to late 80's suite of Sound Technology test equipment, 1000A, 1701x, 1200A as it was designed for the requirements of consumer Audio in mind and has both the NAP and JIS weightings installed and can be selected.

However, HP also makes a fine generator and distortion analyzer but the number is not on the top of my mind just now.

Chuck Rippel

Onkyo T-4711, Pioneer TX-9500II  
South of Norfolk, VA



# TV DXING IN A DIGITAL WORLD

Can an old dog learn new tricks? Sure, but what about an old analog TV DXer?

Mike Bugaj

It's a safe bet to say that most of us in the WTFDA have access to a computer now and that most of us have visited eBay at least occasionally, if not daily. It's also a safe bet to say that if we do any TV DXing at all we would also like to DX the DTV channels. But our options are few since a good DTV set-top box will set us back around \$400 and most of us either can't or won't pay that price.

If we can't afford a Samsung DTV converter the next best option might be a Hauppauge Win TV-D Card for our computers. Prices on these cards have come down on eBay to the point where you can purchase a new card for \$130 or less. In one instance a WTFDA member recently bought one for only \$115!

2003 will be another huge year for digital television. At this time the CEA reports that there are over 600 DTV stations on the air with another large batch ready to hit the streets on or soon after January of 2003. What this means is that analog TV DXing will be harder to accomplish than it already is.

With all this in mind, what do we do? Do we stay with our analog TVs and hope we can log something new or do we just take down our antennas and say adios to TV DX or do we try to adapt to the new technology, which means purchasing a converter or a computer card.

I went with the computer card. I really didn't want to give up on something I enjoy. The price was right and others have done it successfully and were there for support if I needed it.

Watching TV with the Hauppauge DTV card is an eye-opener. Channels I thought were empty are not. Sure I could guess about a couple of stations, but others came as a real surprise. The "snow" I saw on channels 10 and 11 is a perfect WTNH and WWLP DTV picture. The same goes for channels 33,34,36,39,45,46,55 and 58. That stretch of channels from ch 30-40 that looked so empty on my Sanyo analog TV is not empty at all.

DXing the digital channels should be interesting. However when one is accustomed to looking for weak, snowy signals as tropo indicators, a little re-thinking of the methods used needs to take place and I'm still in the re-thinking phase.

As you all know, with DTV DXing you won't see a weak snowy picture. You'll see a black screen or a perfect picture or you might see a broken up picture with part of it out of place or digitally garbled. How do you know when the tropo is up?

Luckily at this point we still have analog channels on the air. My best bet, I think, is to keep using my analog set to look for signs of tropo on those channels I still have use of. Or better yet, use my FM equipment to look for signs of tropo. Next I have gone to Antennaweb.org on the internet and downloaded channel listings for Boston, NYC and other places, to get an instant grasp of what DTVs are actually on the air, and on what channels. And I also keep my VUDs handy for Doug's TV News columns. Then, all that is left to do when tropo shows is to find out where it's coming from, point my dish into that area and then check the available DTV channels.

It's a strange feeling to watch a black screen...not at all like watching snow and the familiar audio hiss that goes with it. Watching a black screen is unnatural, if you ask me. But that's what we'll have to do if we want to do any TV DXing in the future. Right now we still have our old familiar analog stations to help ease the transition and provide some comfort, but when those have gone and the digital stations are the only ones left, will we still get any satisfaction out of staring into the black nothingness, hoping for a picture to appear? Each of us will have to answer that.

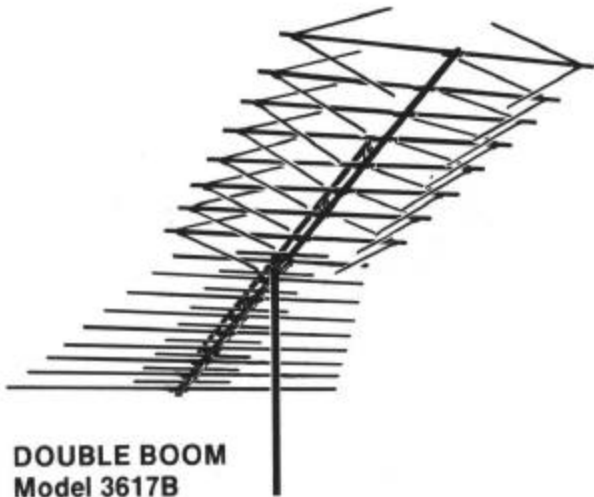
Can you teach an old dog new tricks? Yes, you can. Can a veteran analog DXer learn new digital tricks? No doubt about it, but the question is will the veteran analog DXer *want* to learn them.

Time will tell.

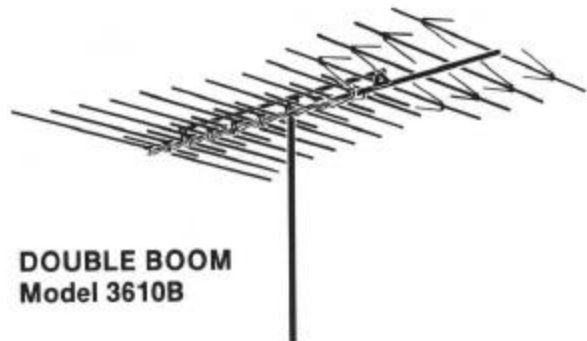
# From the Glorious Days of Channel Master

## CROSSFIRE®

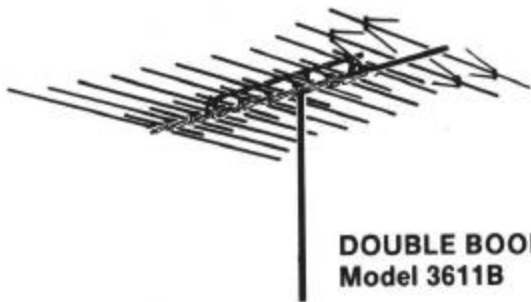
The world famous Color CROSSFIRE® series set the original standards for superior broadband performance. It uses the Channel Master® Proportional Energy Absorption principle that puts more elements to work for greater gain, directivity and flatter response across the entire band.



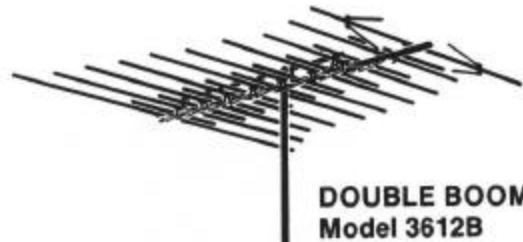
DOUBLE BOOM  
Model 3617B



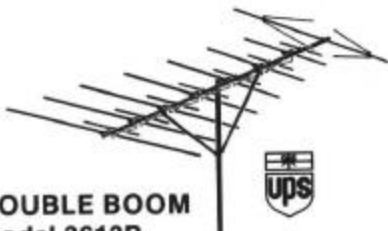
DOUBLE BOOM  
Model 3610B



DOUBLE BOOM  
Model 3611B



DOUBLE BOOM  
Model 3612B



DOUBLE BOOM  
Model 3613B



Model  
3614



Model  
3615

### CROSSFIRE® VHF/FM

Model	Description	Length
3617B	Deepest Fringe SUPER Color CROSSFIRE®	194½"
3610B	Deep Fringe	147"
3611B	Fringe	122"
3612B	Near Fringe	111"
3613B	Far Suburban	87"
3614	Suburban	63"
3615	Far Metropolitan	39"

### STACKING HARNESS

0055 For all VHF  
CROSSFIRE®

## Sign Up/Renewal form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt # \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Prov \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Country \_\_\_\_\_ Interests: TV ( ) FM ( ) 30-50 ( ) Weather ( )

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