



# The VHF-UHF Digest

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE WORLDWIDE TV-FM DX ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 501, Somersville, CT 06072 <https://www.wtfda.org>

THE WORLDWIDE TV-FM DX ASSOCIATION IS DEDICATED TO THE OBSERVATION AND STUDY OF LONG DISTANCE VHF AND UHF PROPAGATION AS IT APPLIES TO SIGNALS FROM 30MHZ THROUGH 600MHZ WITH EMPHASIS ON BROADCAST TELEVISION AND FM RADIO. The WTFDA Board of Directors are: Keith McGinnis ([longwave@comcast.net](mailto:longwave@comcast.net)), James Thomas ([jethomas1955@gmail.com](mailto:jethomas1955@gmail.com)), Nick Langan ([nickl@wtfda.org](mailto:nickl@wtfda.org)), Mike bugaj ([mike@wtfda.org](mailto:mike@wtfda.org)) and Jon Klingerman ([jon@wtfda.org](mailto:jon@wtfda.org)).



## NOVEMBER 2023

Welcome to the online VUD for November. The 30th was a good day for our Florida members as tropo from up the coast as far as Hatteras, NC (WKHC 97.1) made it down into Central Florida at 560 miles. The 22nd was also a good day but for E-skip, as DXers from the East and also the lower desert of California got in the action. Outside of that, though, most of the DX received during the month was of the meteor scatter variety.

**THE PHOTO ABOVE.** Steve Rich tells us about the photo: *Mike Glass and I installed a new Winegard HD6065P FM antenna (10 elements, 125") on the 30 ft. tower at the Milford, IL remote site yesterday. It is now connected to the SDRPlay with Console. Previously, the SDR was connected to a Channel Master Quantum VHF/UHF/FM antenna (1160). The Quantum was lowered to 30 ft. and the new Winegard is at the top @ 35 ft. So far reception is doing quite well.*

**NEW MEMBERS.** Just one this month. This time we welcome Mark Herson to the WTFDA. Mark lives in West Orange, NJ. Welcome Mark!

**DATABASE INFO.** Some of you might have noticed a "Contact Us" button and form on the lower right side of the main database page. We used it to gather database changes submitted by users. Well, lately the "Contact Us" button has disappeared from some web browsers (the browsers no longer want to see these buttons) with the result that users don't know where to send their station info/RDS updates. So, in an attempt to fix this problem, we've put back a Contact Us tab in the small menu on the upper left side of the page. Here you will find the email address for US/Canada updates and the address for Mexican/Central America/Caribbean updates. And if nothing seems to work, just send US/CAN updates to me ([mike@wtfda.org](mailto:mike@wtfda.org)) and Mexico/Central American changes to Jim ([jethomas1955@gmail.com](mailto:jethomas1955@gmail.com)). I also get changes on Mewe frequently. I'll even take them on X (Twitter) @mibuonx.

**RADIO SHACK.** Is there anyone out there who has never, ever bought anything from Radio Shack? If so, raise your hand. Hmm, I don't see any hands raised. When is the last time you saw a Radio Shack catalog? Bet it's been a while. But now you can binge on Radio Shack catalogs [at this site](#). Get your fill of Realistic Tuners, Archer antennas and everything else. This is a great website, somebody's labor of love and we wish it success.

**HOW MANY PEOPLE DO YOU NEED TO CHANGE A LIGHTBULB?** Well, if you're a tower climber in South Dakota trying to change a bulb on top of a 457 meter tower, it's probably just you doing it. [Check out this video](#).

**NEW YORK CITY FM.** The station list on the upper right side of this page is a listing of all New York City metro area FM stations that, if I'm correct about the date, goes back to the mid 1960s. How many of you New Yorkers remember WHOM on 92.3, or classical WQXR on 96.3. It even lists WBMI on 95.7, which is in Hartford, not New York, and back then broadcast Muzak to local businesses and elevators (which is why they called it elevator music). Take a look at this list and see how much the dial has changed over the years. Oh yes, WVNJ Newark on 100.3 (W-V-Enjoy). It was a world without IBOC.

**THE VHF APRS TROPO MAPS.** An email from Jim Thomas informs us that Jon Harder's [aprs.mennolink.org](http://aprs.mennolink.org) has changed names and domains. The tropo maps can now be accessed by going to <https://vhf.dxview.org/> instead. It seems that this change occurred early in 2023 and the re-direct of the URL is so quick that nobody noticed. So, change your bookmarks!

**TEF6686 UPGRADES.** If you've had your TEF6686 radio for some time and have never updated it by flashing the radio's firmware, now would be a good time to do it. The October 23rd firmware update creates separate regions for both RDS and RBDS, so North American stations can now have the correct Program types and PS info. Another change lets you see both PI code and callsign conversions on the main display. A battery icon is

on the upper left side of the display along with the current battery voltage. Tuning steps can also be changed between 100 and 200khz. To flash this radio [watch this video](#) made by a UK DXer.

**THE GIVEAWAY!** Enter our giveaway below for a chance to win a free Airspy SDR! Somebody has got to win it. That someone could be YOU! (Please ignore any zeros you find on the giveaway form.)

That's all from here, wherever here is. We will see you next month! -Mike



### Introducing the first WTFDA Fall Giveaway!

During the month of November the WTFDA is giving away a brand new [Airspy HF+ Discovery](#), valued at \$170USD. Would you like to take a chance?

Here are the rules. This giveaway is open to all current WTFDA members anywhere in the world. The giveaway runs throughout the entire month of November and ends at 2359 EST on November 30th. All you need to do is enter your email address below. We accept ONE entry per person. The winner will be chosen by a random drawing on December first and the winner will be notified by email. The club will be notified in the next VOD. If, for some reason, after repeated attempts, we cannot contact the winner, we will hold a second drawing. Good luck!

**Note:** Although the form below does not show it, your email address and name have been added to the list of entries if you have submitted them (25+ so far).