

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), James Thomas (jethomas1955@gmail.com), Nick Langan (nickl@wtfda.org), Mike bugaj (mike@wtfda.org) and Jon Klingerman (jon@wtfda.org).



MAY 2024

The Stereo Probe 9 is Back in Production!

And no, this is not an April Fools joke! A post on Facebook on April 23rd from ex-WTFDA member Rich Wertman mentioned the fact that the probe would be returning. An email to Rich and his followup reply confirmed that a company called Sky Blue Antenna bought the rights to the antenna with initial delivery to its dealers sometime in May. He also said that the antenna is just like the Channel Master original except for a black colored boom. Rich is owner of RWAntenna Service in Lockport NY and one of Sky Blue's dealers. He said he expects to receive around a dozen of them in May with a pricetag around \$200. Sky Blue has dealers in the midwest, upper New England and Houston, Texas. There is a link to the Sky Blue website in the column to your right. They have a good selection of VHF and UHF fringe TV antennas, something that Winegard and Channel Master gave up on long ago.

Regarding the Zenith radio featured at the top of this page. This radio brings back memories. I got a radio very similar to this one but with FM only, for a Christmas present from my parents when I was in high school. The major difference was that mine had a stationary pointer and a large round dial with frequency numbers that rotated. I actually asked for this for Christmas (very young radio nerd). Later on my dad cut a hole in the side and added a phone jack so I could listen with headphones. It had AFC that could be turned on or off if needed (I always had it off). At some point, years later, I decided that it had outlived its usefulness and it left the house. Do you remember a piece of equipment that you no longer have that you wished you still had? I sympathize.

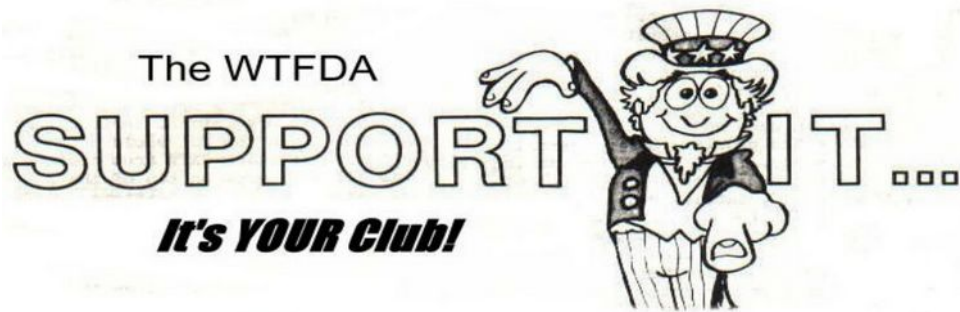
Oregon News. This from John Jefferson in Madras, Oregon: KLRS 101.7 Redmond is at full power for the first time since July, 2020, and KWSO 91.9 Warm Springs has regained its digital nimbus. DX-wise I have my good McIntosh MR80 back. The right channel was basically dead along with other issues. It now works fine, but no new loggings so far. Had skip in January – first since 1998 – and some MS in January & February (with the backup MR80) but nothing in March or April.

The 2024 Madison-Milwaukee GTG. This year marks the 30th annual Madison-Milwaukee GetTogether to be held in the Milwaukee area on Saturday, August 17th beginning at 1 p.m. The GTG is an all-band event, so all hobbyists are welcome. The address is 801 E. Park Blvd, Oak Creek, WI 53154. Your host for this DX event is Tim Noonan. You can email Tim for more information at dxing2@aol.com or call him at 414-813-7373.

FM Database Downtime. Oh yes, have we had problems. The FM Database went down on April 4th. The outage was due to the provider who hosts all three of our websites; the FM database, our WordPress site and the WTFDA Forums. Our host ended support for a process the database needed to function and the site suddenly went down. Fortunately, our IT person was able to host the database on his own servers until the problem could be diagnosed and then fixed. Two of our sites have already been moved to new VPS servers and the third, the WTFDA Forums, is also in the process of being moved. As far as the FM database, much of the code has been updated and other changes made so that the site will continue on into the future without downtime.

Dominican Republic Station Updates. From Jim Thomas: The Dominican Republic FMs are getting a complete update, slowly but surely. INDOTEL dumped their entire DB of 300 stations on me, in response to an inquiry from me during the winter. They sent a complete spreadsheet of their licensed stations on March 14, which confirms each station's transmitter ERP and the Lat/Lon for the transmitter of each station. This is information that I had been long pursuing from INDOTEL. Between the DB going down and also my own busy schedule, it's taken me a while to even get this update entered into the DB. Each station has to be manually edited. Before that, I have to convert each station's transmitter location from decimal to minutes. Lat/Lon co-ordinates are spot on for the transmitter location. I've been spot checking them and have only caught a few that were within a few hundred feet off from the actual tower on Google Maps satellite view. Any dxers who want to get accurate mileage for previous DX logs from the D.R. or future logs can rest assured that the co-ordinates are exact and not guesses.

That's all for this month. Remember, we will always accept links to articles, photos, original articles...whatever. Just send them. The FCC has already granted over 600 CPs for new LPFMs. I believe it since I've had to add them to the DB myself. And they're not done. More dx opportunities...or more congestion? You decide. See you next time. -Mike



FORMAT FLIPS DURING APRIL 2024

From radioinsight.com

With Norsan Media beginning its lease of 106.3 WSPA-FM Simpsonville/Greenville SC from Audacy at midnight, the station flipped to Regional Mexican "[La Raza](#)" simulcasting new sister 910 WOLI/105.7 W289BS Spartanburg. (4/1)

The [flip this morning](#) of AAA 98.9 KPNW-FM Seattle back to Country "**98.9 The Bull**" is the first of two to take place today. Lotus Communications followed by flipping AC "**Star 101.5**" KPLZ-FM Seattle to a gold leaning Country as "[101.5 Hank-FM](#)" at 2pm. (4/1)



Following their [\\$3,050,000 acquisition](#) of Country/Sports [104.5 WQKT](#) Wooster OH earlier this year, River Radio Ministries has set a May 1 date for the station's flip to its Christian AC brand. (4/1)

WSPA-FM 106.3 Simpsonville/Greenville SC flipped to Regional Mexican "[La Raza](#)" simulcasting new sister 910 WOLI/105.7 W289BS Spartanburg. 4/1)

Lotus Communications flipped Classic Hits "**Q92.1**" KQKZ Bakersfield CA to a Gold leaning Bilingual AC presentation as "**Retro 92.1**" on Monday, April 1.

Community Communications Public News/Talk 90.7 WMFE-FM Orlando and 89.5 WMFV Cedar Creek/Ocala FL rebranded to "[Central Florida Public Media](#)" on April 3.

Pillar Media has completed its \$7.775 million acquisition of Max Media Rhythmic AC "**Jammin 101.5**" KJHM Watkins and Classic Hip Hop "**Flo 107.1**" KFCO Bennett/Denver CO. KJHM has flipped to Christian AC "[Star 101.5](#)" and KFCO simultaneously transitioned to Christian Hip-Hop "[Kingdom 107.1](#)".

3 Towers Broadcasting Company flipped 94.3 WREB Greencastle IN, one of its "[Giant-FM](#)" branded stations from Hot AC to Classic Rock on April 1.

Cumulus Media has shifted CHR "[Hot 106.7](#)" WWKL Hershey/Harrisburg PA to Rhythmic CHR. (4/9)

Magnum Media AC "[B102.9](#)" WBOO Reedsburg WI has expanded its signal into Baraboo with the addition of a simulcast on 900 WDLS Wisconsin Dells/98.5 W253DH Baraboo.



Entravision will launch Bilingual Rhythmic “[Fuego](#)” brand in Phoenix on Monday, April 15. 106.7 KDVA Buckeye, which serves the western side of the Phoenix metro, will become “[Fuego 106.7](#)” under new KFUE call letters.

iHeartMedia will flip CHR “[Power 96.1](#)” WWPW Atlanta to Hip Hop “**96.1 The Beat**” at 12pm today as the CHR format gets downgraded to the suburban rimshot signal.

Magnum Media has completed the move of “[Bucky Country](#)” 95.9 WBKY from Portage WI to Stoughton where it will now cover the Janesville market and has added translator coverage on 99.5 W258CM Madison fed by 107.3 WSJY-HD4 Fort Atkinson.

Two weeks after launching Christian Hip Hop “**Kingdom 107.1**” KFCO Bennett/Denver CO, Pillar Media dropped all references to the brand on Friday. The station is now operating just under its call letters as “[KFCO 107.1](#)”. (4/22)

Claro Communications’ “**Brush Country 105.9**” KUKA San Diego TX and Bill Doerner’s 103.3 K277BL Corpus Christi have relaunched as Classic Country “[Retro Country 105.9/103.3](#)”.

Chavez Radio Group flipped Bilingual Rhythmic “**Forge 103.9**” KBDS Taft/Bakersfield CA to Hip Hop “[Fire 103.9](#)” earlier this month.

For the third time in its history, 97.1 KEGL Fort Worth/Dallas has flipped to Rock “[97.1 The Eagle](#)”. (4/30)



Desert Valley Media Group Rhythmic CHR “[Power 98.3](#)” KKFR Mayer/Phoenix and 96.1 K241BQ Fort McDowell AZ relaunched at noon today with a shift to a music-intensive Rhythmic Hot AC presentation featuring more R&B and Classic Hip Hop.

end



FM DX Recap

John Zondlo – 4009 Driftwood Cir. – Yukon, OK
73099

fmdxweb@cox.net – Next deadline: May 25
May 2024

John Zondlo – 4009 Driftwood Circle – Yukon, OK 73099 – All New – CDT
Sony XDR-F1HD tuner, AirSpy HF+Discovery, SDRPlay RSPdx, SDR Console, APS-9B @ 16’

3/31 Tr

2049 KSTX 89.1 TX San Antonio, talk, RDS 423

2341 KTEX 100.3 TX Mercedes, finally something from the Rio Grande Valley, "FM 100 K-Tex," country,
false PI 12AB 647

4/18 Tr

K244FW 96.7 OK Lawton, new translator for KKRX 1380 Lawton 72

Slow start to the season so far. I got in on the 5 days of Es in January, nothing new heard and oftimes the Es "cloud" was way to close to me. Here's hoping y'all get some good DX in May and report it to the Recap!