

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)).

## JULY 2024



### WE HAVE OUR WINNERS!

We held a Zoom meeting on Friday evening, the 28th. We had 47 entries. Entrant's names were placed on a spreadsheet by Nick Langan. CHATGPT was asked for two random numbers. The two numbers were matched against the spreadsheet and the winners were determined.

And the Winners are: **John Zondlo**, Yukon Oklahoma and **David Cox**, Birmingham, Alabama. Congrats to both of you and have fun with your new radios.

Plans are to do another giveaway in September. I'm not going to be specific here since we will say more about it next month, but here's a hint. You might want to keep the prize outside.

**NEW MEMBERS.** We have three new members in June. They are Jerrett Bourgon (Ottawa, ON), Leslie Wood (East Meadow, NY) and Asher Friedman (Philadelphia suburbs). Welcome to the three of you!

**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](mailto:dxing2@aol.com) or call him at 414-813-7373.

**THE MISERABLE STATE OF E SKIP.** Some of us are writing off June as a total waste of time. We're left with perhaps two more weeks of what some would call a skip season. Since this is written at the end of June, it seems skip might be picking up for a few people (Pacific Northwest, upper midwest) but there's an invisible wall that keeps New England out of the skip zones. There also may be other walls around Missouri and

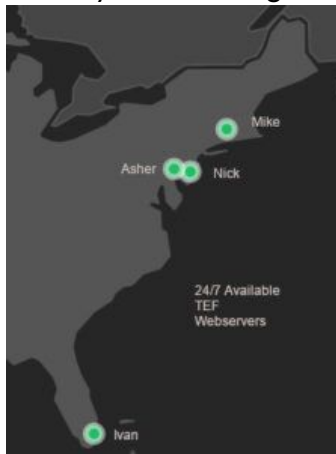
Minnesota. Or maybe there's another invisible wall somewhere out in the Atlantic that keeps all that massive E skip in Europe out of North America. It could be the skip gremlins. Or it could be a secret government program playing around in the upper reaches of the atmosphere keeping skip depressed, and keeping DXers depressed also. Who knows. Gotta blame it on something.

**TEF RADIO.** Many of you now have radios with the TEF6686 chips and probably have various questions about some aspect of the radio and its operation. The place to find the answers to your questions is the Openradio Community on Discord. This is the place where the developers post, give hardware and software updates and help to those who ask. The lead developer is Marek (Mark) in the Czech Republic. I think he lives a good portion of his life on the Discord server. He also, in my opinion, is a bit overwhelmed at the popularity of the TEF6686 radios and their software. I find him to be a very likeable 26-year-old. If you come across someone there with the handle of Noobish-Jaromer, that's him. He will personally help you.

Recently, because of the growth and popularity of the TEF radios, Marek has launched a new website, <https://fmdx.org>. From that site you can jump right into the Discord server. Go into their Discord server and look around. You will find out more information about the TEF radios and their webserver software than you knew existed.

One of our newest WTFDA members, Asher in the Philadelphia area, has a new webserver online. That makes four full time webserver run by WTFDA members. Myself, Nick and Ivan in Miami have the others. Also Bobby's webserver in Baton Rouge is online when DX is in.

I will say that Ash's has done a super job at customizing his webserver (as does Ivan). I would like to do a few things to mine also but all I've found the time for yet is to change the color. Here's the most recent map:



**MONAURAL STATIONS.** In the 'Mode' field of the FM Database you might notice that we do list stations that broadcast in monaural mode. I do have a feeling that monaural stations are very underreported but after thinking about it, how important these days is it to know if a station is monaural or not? Back in the old days when everyone was DXing with a receiver or radio, we almost always had a stereo LED we looked at and knowing whether a station broadcast in stereo or not would be an aid to identifying it. But now we have RDS to rely on and we take stereo reception for granted. But not all stations use RDS and knowing if a station uses stereo (or 'embraces' it as the late Bruce Elving used to say), can still be a help in identifying a station. Now, having said that, Glenn Hauser has been notifying me of stations in the Oklahoma and Kansas areas that do not broadcast in stereo and I've been making note of them in the FM database. I would ask the database

editors, if they think of it, to note monaural stations in the FM database as they find them. I would ask the rest of you, as you find them, to reach out to me or any of the database editors with information on monaural stations in your area.

---

## FORMAT FLIPS DURING JUNE 2024

From [radioinsight.com](http://radioinsight.com)

Flinn Broadcasting has found a new LMA partner for 1240 WMSO Southaven MS/104.1 W281BR Memphis TN as they flipped to a mix of Southern Soul, Blues and R&B as "[Power 104.1 The Source](#)".

98.5 K253AN Sunset Valley/KTXX-HD2 has flipped to Regional Mexican Oldies "[Leyendas 98.5](#)".

99.3 KOKE-FM Thorndale becomes "[Mexicanísima 99.3](#)".

1260 KTAE Elgin/101.9 K270CO Round Rock completes the trio of new launches with a move to Spanish Classic Hits "[Magia 101.9](#)".

Kenneth Hill's Appalachian Radio Group has closed on its [\\$370,000 purchase](#) of Country 1240 WBEJ/107.9 W300CC and has flipped the station to Southern Gospel "[107.9 The Bridge](#)".

Hartline LLC has flipped Conservative Talk "**101.3 The Buzz**" W256DW/104.1 WCLE-HD2 Cleveland TN to Sports "[ESPN Cleveland 101.3](#)".

John Elliott's Suncoast Radio closed on its [\\$150,000 purchase](#) of 107.9 WNDN Chiefland FL from Saga Communications and has relaunched the station as "[Classic Rock 107.9](#)" WWQC on June 1.

Pattison Media has flipped Social AC "**102.7 Now Radio**" CKPK-FM Vancouver back to its former Alternative "[102.7 The Peak](#)" identity at midnight.

Griffin Media will pull the plug on Sports "[1170 The Blitz](#)" KTSB Tulsa next week.

The flip will end the Sports format that had [launched in August 2021](#) as the station applied earlier this month to change call letters to KOTV to match its co-owned [television station](#) in Tulsa

Stu-Comm Inc. AAA [91.9 WNRN-FM](#) Charlottesville VA continues its expansion across the state of Virginia with the purchase of Conservative Talk [1240 WGMN](#)/99.5 W258DN Roanoke VA from Gary Burns' Three Daughters Media for \$425,000.

A Time Brokerage Agreement will take effect on Monday, July 1. The purchase will bring the AAA format back to FM in the Roanoke market for the first time since "**The Mountain**" 101.5 WVMP [moved online](#) at the end of November 2022.

Justin Fluke's Many Signals Communications has closed on its \$670,000 purchase of Hip Hop/R&B "96.9 The Beat" KQRB Effingham/Topeka KS and launched Hot AC "[96.9 Pulse Radio](#)" KOZA on Monday.

Hip Hop “**Hot 105.5**” WCZQ Monticello has moved from the Decatur cluster recently purchased as part of the [\\$2 million acquisition](#) of Neuhoff Media’s Danville and Decatur clusters and is now being operated out of Champaign. With the change, Classic Hits [107.9 WKIO](#) Arcola has moved to the frequency, but has also flipped to Classic Rock. The two frequencies will temporarily simulcast.

iHeartMedia has launched its Bilingual Soft AC “**Magic**” brand in a third market as the company launches “[Magic 107.1](#)” K296GT/KHUD-HD2 Tucson AZ.

Rox Radio Group has moved Texas/Red Dirt Country “**Red Dirt 96.7**” from 96.7 KXRD Fayetteville AR to 1190 KREB Gentry/100.5 K263CB Springdale as it launched Country “[96.7 The Bull](#)” on Friday, June 21.

Total Media Group has flipped Country “**Big Country 99.5**” WBYG Point Pleasant WV to Rock “[Pure Rock 99.5](#)” on Friday, June 21.

Seven Mountains Media Conservative Talk 1230 WVNT/103.5 W278CQ Parkersburg WV has begun stunting with a loop of \*NSYNC’s “Pop” as it prepares to flip to CHR “[Pop 103.5](#)” on Friday, June 28 at 10:00am.

Seven Mountains Media has revamped its [recently acquired](#) Parkersburg WV cluster.

While Conservative Talk 1230 WVNT/103.5 W278CQ Parkersburg WV continues stunting with a loop of \*NSYNC’s “Pop” as it [prepares to flip](#) to CHR “[Pop 103.5](#)” on Friday at 10:00am, the remainder of the cluster has seen a combination of frequency changes, rebrands, lineup changes, and one format change.

Country “**Froggy 99**” WGGE Parkersburg moves from 99.1 to 95.1 Elizabeth as “[Froggy 95](#)” upgrading the station from a Class B1 signal to the stronger Class B signal.

end

---

## TV DX and Photos

**Eric Bueneman NØUIH 631 Coachway Ln, Hazelwood, MO 63042-1347**  
Email: [n0uiheric@gmail.com](mailto:n0uiheric@gmail.com) - Deadline the 10th of the month



The TV DX season is under way...where are your reports and pictures? The reason why I set up this column is for those like myself, who refuse to use the Logger. I, for one, prefer to report to a column instead of putting my logs into the Logger.

The big news at my shack is the addition of an ADTH X23A3U-Z2 DTV tuner that decodes both ATSC 1.0 and ATSC 3.0 digital TV formats. I found this on an Internet search. The big selling point of this particular tuner is that it’s priced much less than the Zapperbox that Ryan Grabow used to log his ATSC 3.0 DTV DX. This is the third DTV tuner in my shack, following the two Zenith DTT-901 ATSC 1.0 tuners. I’m still figuring out some of the features of my new tuner, but I’ve already logged some DX with it. What I did was check the band conditions using one of my ATSC 1.0 tuners and using the Auto Scan feature on the ADTH tuner to see what DX I’m receiving. Locally, KPLR 26 broadcasts in ATSC 3.0. The three channels in the clear are KPLR (virtual 11-1), KTVI (virtual 2-1) and KDNL (virtual 30-1). KMOV (virtual 4-1) and KSDK (virtual 5-1) need an Internet connection to decode the ATSC 3.0 signal. I’m also trying to figure out that feature.

The logs for May and early June 2024 and a couple of pics from the past are in this column.

**Eric Bueneman (NØUIH), 631 Coachway Lane, Hazelwood, MO 63042-1347**

**Equipment:** 1984 Samsung 19-inch color TV, 1999 Daewoo 13-inch color TV, 2008 Sansui 19-inch TV with built-in ATSC 1.0 tuner, two Zenith DTT-901 ATSC 1.0 tuners, ADTH X23A3U-Z2 ATSC 1.0/ATSC 3.0 tuner, Channel Master CM-3020 VHF/UHF antenna at 28 feet (8.5 m) above ground level. *All times CDT, all distances in miles/kilometers.*

May 28, 2024 (tropo)

0247	<u>WRSP</u>	16 IL, Springfield (ATSC 3.0)	80/128
0248		(17-1: WAND 20/17)	
0248		(20-1: WICS 15/20)	
0249		(49-1: WCIX 11/49)	
0249		(55-1: WRSP 16/55)	
0519	WICD	32-1 (15-1) IL, Champaign (ABC)	150/240
0520	WICD	32-2 (15-2) IL, Champaign (Comet)	150/240
0520	WICD	32-3 (15-3) IL, Champaign (TBD)	150/240
0521	WICD	32-4 (15-4) IL, Champaign (Charge!)	150/240
0522	WEIU	30-1 (51-1) IL, Charleston (PBS)	130/209
0522	WEIU	30-2 (51-2) IL, Charleston (FNX)	130/209
0527	WCIA	34-1 (3-1) IL, Champaign (CBS)	150/240
0528	WCIA	34-2 (3-2) IL, Champaign (WCIX 11)	150/240
0528	WCIA	34-3 (3-3) IL, Champaign (Bounce)	150/240
0529	WCIA	34-4 (3-4) IL, Champaign (Grit)	150/240

June 2, 2024 (groundwave)

1704	W36EX	36-1 (36-1) IL, Alton (News Net)	15/24
1705	W36EX	36-2 (36-2) IL, Alton (SNHtv)	15/24
1706	W36EX	36-3 (36-3) IL, Alton (Shop HQ)	15/24

I broke in the new ATSC 3.0 tuner on the short tropo opening of May 28, pulling in the ATSC 3.0 signal from WRSP 16. The signal was stronger than the ATSC 1.0 signal of WICS 15 (20) at times. All four channels on the WRSP ATSC 3.0 signal were in the clear; even the network logos showed up next to the ID in the onscreen program guide. W36EX in Alton has changed from their longstanding Christian format (carrying Golden Eagle Broadcasting) to a news, sports and home shopping format. 36-1 carries News Net, an all-news channel, with SNHtv (SNH stands for Sports News and Highlights), an all-sports news channel, on 36-2, and 36-3 carries the home shopping channel Shop HQ. It'll be interesting to see what I can log in ATSC 3.0 format. The ATSC 1.0 logbook as of June 1, 2024 stands at 223; WRSP 16 is my first ATSC 3.0 log.

Now, here's a couple of TV DX captures from my archives:



XHWX 4 Monterrey, NL  
1,075 miles (1,730 km) E-skip  
Seen July 9, 2014



WTTK 15 (29) Kokomo, IN  
 255 miles (410 km) tropo  
 Seen June 7, 2020

That will wrap up another column...please report! 73 and good DX from the Florissant Valley Dial Twister.



## FM DX Recap

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

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

**Eric Bueneman** – NØUIH - 631 Coachway Lane - Hazelwood, MO 63042-1347

**Equipment:** Kenwood AR-304 AM/FM/FM Stereo receiver, Channel Master CM3020 VHF-TV/UHF-TV/FM Yagi at 28' (8.5 meters) above ground level (AGL), Uniden Bearcat BCD996P2 analog/digital scanner with Radio Shack discone at 28' (8.5 meters) AGL, Diamond A144S5 five-element beam modified for the NWR band at 32' (9.7 meters) AGL, Whistler WS1040 handheld analog/digital scanner w/rubber duck antenna. *All times CDT, distances in miles/kilometers.*

3/14 Gw/Tr

1609 K236CK 95.1 MO Warrenton, "73 Country KWRE," local wx, Westplex mention, classic country, mixing

with WDZQ in K236CS null 50/80

1648 K264CY 100.7 MO Saint Louis, "The Real Talk Radio Network," local ads, conservative talk, in KFNS

null 15/24

4/9 Gw

1938 WWVL-LP 93.1 IL Alton, "Smooth Jazz 93.1," smooth jazz, in KBDZ null 15/24

5/1 Tr

2013 WDNL 102.1 IL Danville, "D-102," hot AC 175/282

5/23 Tr

0733 KEC74 162.55 IN Indianapolis, weather almanac, legal ID, KDO89 off 240/386

5/24 Tr

0103 KIH76 162.55 IN Evansville, weather forecast for southwest IN, CDT time check, weather summary,  
KDO89 off 165/266  
0105 KGRS 107.3 IA Burlington, "The New Mix 107.3," hot AC, in K297BI null 140/225  
0108 WWVR 98.5 IL Paris, "98-5 The River," classic rock, in KTJJ null 145/233

5/25 Gw/Tr

0236 WZ2548 162.55 MO Eldon, CDT time check, hazardous weather outlook for MO Ozarks/southeast KS,  
weather forecast for the Lake of the Ozarks, MO NWR #30, KDO89 off 140/225  
0347 K224FT 92.7 MO Saint Louis, "KFUO," Lutheran Church-MO Synod promo, choral music, in W224DC  
null 15/24

5/28 Tr

0450 KXI42 162.45 IL Chester, hazardous weather outlook, CDT time check, legal ID, weather forecast for southwest IL, over KXI70/KXI48 65/105  
0453 WCIL 101.5 IL Carbondale, "101-5 CIL-FM," CHR, stereo, in K268DE null 100/161  
0459 KGMO 100.7 MO Cape Girardeau, "100-dot-7 KGMO," legal ID, classic rock, taking out K264CY/KFNS 115/184  
0502 KEZS 102.9 MO Cape Girardeau, "K-103," country music, in K275CI null 115/185  
0503 WKRV 107.1 IL Vandalia, "Classic Hits 107.1 WKRV," local news, weather forecast, classic hits,  
taking out K296HA/WW296DR 70/113  
0522 WGRN 89.5 IL Greenville, "WGRN," classic hits, underwriting, o/KNLH, local KCFV off 50/80  
6/3 Tr  
0157 WBNH 88.5 IL Pekin, "WBNH," SRN news, weather forecast, mixing with KMST/WGCA 140/225  
0221 WDNL 102.1 IL Danville, "D-102," local ads, hot AC 175/282  
0223 WMAY 92.7 IL Taylorville, "92-7 WMAY," wx forecast, local ads, Dave Ramsey promo 70/113  
0224 WDBR 103.7 IL Springfield, "103-7 DBR," CHR, over W279AQ 80/128

6/6 Tr

0245 KDMC 88.7 MO Van Buren, "KRCU," classical mx, multi-station legal ID, through WSIE 125/201  
0301 WXN92 162.525 AR Harrison, hazardous weather outlook, AR/MO wx conditions, forecast 230/370  
0323 WXL46 162.4 MO Springfield, legal ID, CDT time check, hazardous wx outlook for MO Ozarks/ SE Kansas 195/314  
0342 KXI66 162.425 MO Piedmont, wx forecast for the Ozark foothills, MO/AR wx conditions 100/161  
0347 KZNN 105.3 MO Rolla, "Your Country Superstation," local ad, country music 95/153  
0352 KGBX 105.9 MO Nixa, "105.9 KGBX," hot AC 200/322  
0400 KBGM 91.1 MO Park Hills, "AFR," American Family News, in WIBI null 65/105  
0407 KTTR 99.7 MO Saint James, "Your News and Information Leader," local ads, legal ID, *America at Night with Rich Valdes* 75/121  
0411 KBCN 104.3 AR Marshall, "ESPN Arkansas," ESPN SportsCenter All Night, local ads, AR #25

Added a few translators to the logbook, including much wanted K236CK. The primary station, KWRE 730, is much easier to hear during the daytime. The station is on the air from 0500 to 1900 CDT. K264CY relays KXEN 1010, which operates with 160 watts during the daytime and 14 watts at night. WWVL-LP 93.1 is a new station in Alton, broadcasting a Smooth Jazz format with 100 watts. The previous occupant of the channel was W226BC in Brighton, which relayed the now-deleted WDRS 89.5 in Dorsey. K224FT 92.7 relays KFUE 850, but the coverage map on Radio Locator has the translator's coverage missing Saint Louis entirely. The transmitter is actually in Weldon Spring, some 30 miles west. The other translator, K283CI 104.5, has their transmitter in downtown Saint Louis and has a null toward KSLQ in Washington. Local KDO89 on 162.55 MHz was off for a few days in late May, allowing me to hear KEC74 and KIH76 again, as well as logging my 30<sup>th</sup> NOAA Weather Radio station from the Show-Me State in the form of WZ2548 in Eldon, MO. This was moved from Camdenton, where it was WXJ90. The opening of June 6 brought a city of license change for KBCN 104.3, previously logged when it was licensed to Harrison, AR in 2005. It was only the second time I logged KDMC 88.7; my QTH is in a WSIE null toward Rolla on 88.5 and Jefferson City on 88.9. No E-skip reaching FM yet this season; the opening on May 1 only reached 50.125 MHz. FM total as of June 6 stands at 1,387 (putting the 1,400 mark within reach), with the NWR total now at 143. 73 and good DX from the Florissant Valley Dial Twister.