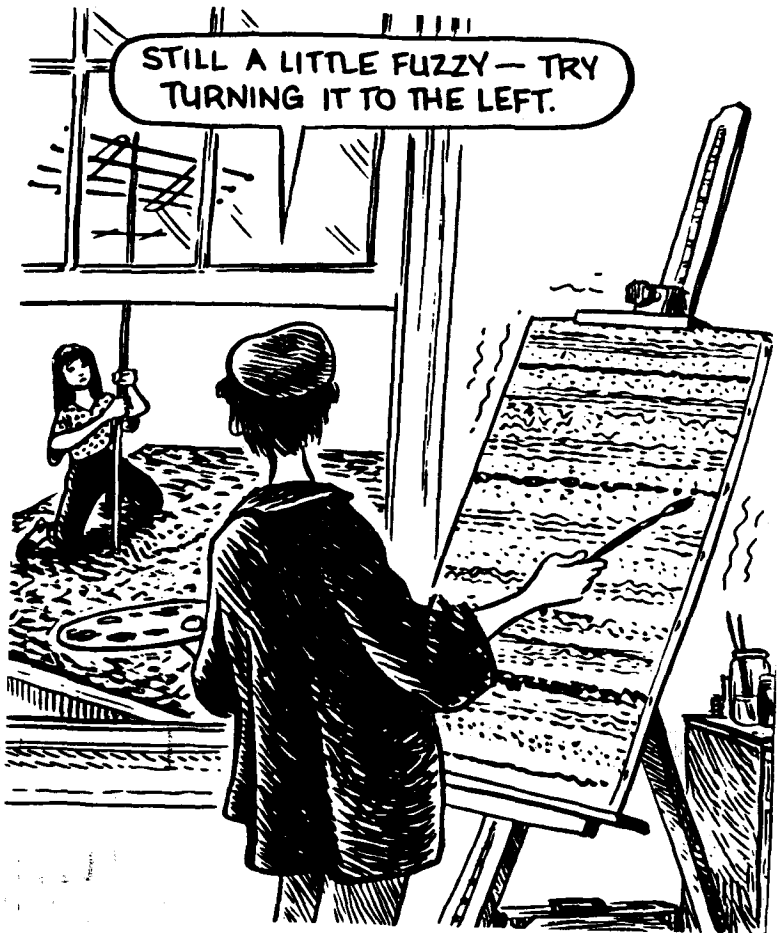


Vhf-Uhf DIGEST

The Official Publication of the Worldwide TV-FM DX Association

MAY 1998



E-Skip--It's Back!



WORLDWIDE TV-FM DX ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 501 - SOMERSVILLE, CT 06072



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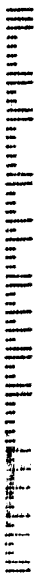
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WORLDWIDE TV-FM DX ASSOCIATION

SERVING THE VHF-UHF DX ENTHUSIAST

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 BROADCAST SIGNALS AT VHF AND UHF. W.T.F.D.A. IS GOVERNED BY A BOARD OF DIRECTORS: TOM BRYANT, GREG CONIGLIO, BRUCE HALL, DAVE JANOWIAK, AND BILL THOMPSON.

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FROM THE STAFF:

CONVENTIONS GALORE: DXers like to get together. In fact, about the time you read this, the first event will be underway.

DAYTON HAMFEST - Although this is primarily a ham radio affair, a lot of DXers will be in Dayton, OH the 15, 16 and 17 of this month. Motels are already full so be prepared to stay a good distance for the event.

WTFDA - Dave Nieman and Greg Coniglio co-host our convention July 31, August 1 and 2 at Rock City, New York (near Olean). The high country of southwestern NY promises potential tropo treats. Station tours are planned. Motel rates are very reasonable. Please check the detailed publicity page elsewhere in this issue.

NRC - The National Radio Club's annual Labor Day weekend blowout heads to San Antonio this year. Although this group's main interest is AM radio, many of their members are also active in FM and TV DXing. The club has arranged for special air fares. Station tours, sightseeing, and lots of traditional convention activities are on the agenda. For information contact John Bowker, 1811 Ft. Dusquena Drive, Sun City Center, FL 33573 or via e-mail <wa2wen@juno.com>.

IRCA - The International Radio Club of America (primarily AM DXers) will be convening August 14-16 in Missoula, Montana. For information on this "Big Sky Country" event contact Larry Godwin, 2390 Clydes Dale Lane, Missoula, MT 59804. E-mail address: <lbg@selway.umt.edu>.

MONITORING TIMES: Grove Industries of Brasstown, NC has sponsored several gatherings of radio/tv hobbyists over the years, but it appears that this year the publisher of *Monitoring Times* is going to let the tradition slide. If other information becomes available we'll let you know.

WTFDA MAILBOX

Worldwide TV-FM DX Association
P.O. Box 501, Somersville, CT 06072

MAIL CALL

Here we go with some recent renewals: Dave Nieman, Thomas Leu, Glen Jacobs, Scott Steenhausen, William Draeb, Pete Taylor, Neil Joslin, Edward Cotton, Edward Kowalski, Bill Dvorak, Bill Thompson, Joseph Smith, Pat Dyer, Carlon Howington, Gerald Hart, and Richard Steinberger. Thank you all for choosing WTFDA.

A Plea For Assistance

Here's a note from Mike Condon: "Here is a desperate cry for help. I have been trying to locate two or more Channel Master tuneable traps model #7206. They are no longer made and I have tried several suppliers. I have posted on our DX list and some good suggestions were Comark and Winegard. I am not ready to give up on Channel Master yet. I am sure someone has one or two of these things just sitting on a garage shelf somewhere." Well, if you have any of these thingers laying around, email Mike at michael.condon@juno.com, or mail me at PO Box 501 and I'll get the two of you together.

MISC MAILBOX STUFF

Last month's print was a bit too small, so I have moved up to some larger print. I'm having a tough time reading some of the email addresses you folks put on your 3x5 renewal cards. There is not very much space there, so try to put your address either on the top or the bottom of the card in large letters so I can read it. If you have email and list your address, I will email you when I get your renewal check just to let you know that it got here. On a couple of occasions I have had my email bounced back to me 4 or 5 times, which caused me to yell nasty things at my modem. If you don't have email then keep looking for your name at the top of this column. And if there's any problem I will get back to you promptly.

IRC CHAT NITES...TUES & FRI 10PM EST

Remember, anyone with a computer and modem who has either 1)IRC, 2)IRClE for Macs, or 3)term program and shell account can join us on IRCNET. Log on server irc.stealth.net port 5550 and join #wtfdxa. A darn good reason to get a computer. Drop in and join in the fun. Chances are good you'll be back for more ! 3

PLAN YOUR NEXT STUPID TRIP HERE!

Gove City is a town in northwest Kansas on the high plains and has about 100 residents. Gove City is unique in that it's served by only one TV Station (KLBY-4) 50 miles away. And Gove City has no cable system since the cable TV people say it's not profitable to set up a system there. In this town you need at least a 35' tower and fringe antenna to get anything at all. About a dozen homes have satellite dishes to pick up some decent viewing, but the drawback here is that there is no local programming on the satellite so residents are not crazy about using them. Gove City has the the perfect requirements for a stupid trip. It's miles from anywhere, has no TV, almost no people and nothing to do but DX and do bandscans. You gotta love it. I could think of worse places to go. (This item based on a newspaper story sent to the Mailbox).

TO QSL, or not to QSL...THAT IS THE QUESTION

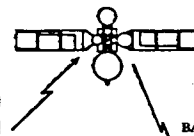
Some of us send out reception reports; some of don't. I did a long time ago and I bet many of you did too. DXers today are finding a troublesome situation. Not many stations reply anymore. Recently member Mike Condon posted a question to the DXers in the amfvtvdx@th.net to ask why this was so. From a reply rate of 99% before the 90s, and then dropping dramatically, he felt something was wrong in the world of qsls.

Our own Tom Bryant replied to Mike, and I pass this on for all of you to digest and comment on. Tom said that to begin with, stations don't owe you a reply. Here's Toms top 5 reasons stations don't reply to your requests: 1) No time. Too few people with too much work to do. 2) They don't care. If you are outside their coverage area they don't need you. 3) Contract engineers. Since there's no chief engineer around, you will find no one person who wants to handle reports. 4) Ignorant employees. Have no clue what a reception report means and throws them in the trash. 5) Cost cutting. Budgets are so tight that there's no money to reply to you. And add to the mix that many younger engineers are computer-teck types who have minimal knowledge of rf gear. So, what do you think? If you would like to put in your two or three cents, this is the place. If you send out reports, how is your situation going? Write the Mailbox at PO Box 501 and let us know. -Mike B. ikon@netcom.com

Got a station you can't ID?? Check the FCC AM/FM Databases at www.radiostation.com. Just plug in those wierd call letters, city or frequency and get that station IDed. You can also get there from the WTFDA web site at:

www.users.sccoast.net/daustin/wtfda.html

SATELLITE NEWS



GEORGE W JENSEN
4604 ANNTANA AVE
BALTIMORE MD 21206-4220

An abatement of new digital channels this time around, but a few surprises. The recently launched PanAmSat at 58 west has lit up with an ID slide at xpdr. 22 - and also an array of digital channels running from 700 - 713. Most of these are not identifiable, but one has color bars and 710 is IDing as Union Radio - La mega - Caracas with incredibly horrible US music mix, 711 - white noise, and 712 - an all news station carrying CNN Internacional en Espanol, BBC en Espanol as well as others - location is unknown. There are also digital channels on a newly added CF satellite whose location is unknown as well as a Ku-designated bird - KF with channels 100 - 350 - no video noted - will keep you informed.

Please note that when ever I list a channel and designation it may not be "in the clear" - but has had some form of identification. Consider the array recently listed for Telstar 5. All of these are part of a TCI Cable thing and are not now in the clear or, for that matter identifiable.

A few new things -

- Showtime Extreme - east - C3-104
- Showtime extreme - West - G9-104
- TVN Special Events - G9-390
- Satellite Bingo - Anik E1 - Ku - 24 analog
- The SET - Southern Entertainment Television - GE Americom 15
- Outlaw Music Channel - GE Americom - 23
- Telstar 5 - Ku - 100, 200, 300 - unknown programmers
- CCTV - also now on Galaxy 7 752
- The Box - Pulse - Galaxy 7 - 800
- Oui - Telstar 402 XPDR 6
- FXM - Fox Movies - now in GE 3 - XPDR 18
- Saudi Arabia Television - GE2 - XPDR 20 - for the Hadj only? delete - Spacenet 3 - The African Broadcasting Corp.

Thanks to Douglas Smith of Pleasant View, Tennessee on his info concerning Cornerstone TV's move.

A few services being proposed - as listed in Broadcasting Magazine and other assorted places -

- Air and Space Network
- American Legal Network
- The American west Network
- Anthropology Programming and Ent.
- Anti-Aging Network
- Applause Arts and Antiques
- The Auto Channel
- Automotive Television Network
- Beauty Channel
- Black Women's TV
- Boating Channel
- CEO Channel
- Channel Earth
- Channel 500
- Chop T.V.
- Children's Fashion Network
- Collectors Channel
- A Discovery Channel Plex
- Do-It-Yourself
- Fad TV
- Fashion Network
- Gay Entertainment TV
- GETv(Gaming Entertainment)
- The Global Channel
- Hobby Craft Network
- Home Improvement Net
- Jones Health Net
- Lifetime Movie Network
- Local News Net
- Locomotion Channel
- The Love Net
- Martial Arts Action Net
- The Suite from MTV and VH1 (6 services)
- Museum Channel
- My Pet TV Net
- New Kid City
- New Investment Channel
- Noggin
- Oasis
- Orb TV
- Outlet Mall Net
- Parent TV
- Premier
- Horse Net
- Real Estate Net
- Seminar TV
- Share TV
- Toon Disney
- Therapy Channel - which you will need to look at all of these. All for now - see you in 30

George

TV NEWS

May 1998

Douglas E. Smith W9WI
1385 Old Clarksville Pike
Pleasant View, TN 37146-8098
w9wi@bellsouth.net
NOTE: NEW EMAIL ADDRESS!

*: Non-commercial station
nc: No Change
+/-: Channel offsets (plus,
z/n: minus, zero, and none)
^: Digital TV station

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

St	Ch	ERP	Ht.	City	Applicant	Latitude	Longitude
CA	57^	100	446	San Francisco	KRON [4]	37-45-19N	122-27-06W
MA	42^	948	288	Boston	WHDE [7]	42-18-41N	71-13-00W
OH	2^	7	296	Cleveland	WKYC [3]	41-23-10N	81-41-21W
OR	46^	960	509	Portland	KGW [8]	45-31-21N	122-44-46W
PA	46^	50	293	Allentown	WFMZ [69]	40-33-52N	75-26-24W
PA	36^	50	411	Harrisburg	WTF [33]*	40-20-44N	76-52-07W
PA	42^	317.4	161	Philadelphia	WTXF [29]	40-03-33N	75-14-21W

CONSTRUCTION PERMITS GRANTED FOR NEW STATIONS

St	Ch	ERP	Ht.	City	Applicant	Latitude	Longitude
AL	24+	30.27	W24CJ	Jasper	WTTO [21]	33-28-51N	87-24-03W
AR	31+	1450	271	Harrison	Acme TV	36-26-11N	93-14-43W
CA	56+	8.15	K56GC	El Centro	TBN	32-47-10N	115-29-53W
CO	33+	5000	122.6	Durango	D. TV 33	37-15-44N	107-53-58W
FL	28^	216	438.2	W. Palm Bch	WFLX[29]	26-34-37N	80-14-32W
IA	65-	0.512	K65HB	Cedar Rapids	Stephen Co	41-54-33N	91-39-17W
ON	36	473		Hamilton	Crossroads		
TX	69n	8.75	K69IB	El Paso	S. Warren	31-48-57N	106-29-20W
TX	2+	100	334	Fredericksb.	CorridorTV	30-17-57N	98-56-16W
TX	50n	0.15	K50FF	Raymondvil.	A. Ortiz	26-28-32N	97-48-30W
TX	26-	5000	560	Uvalde	S TX Visi	29-37-11N	99-02-55W
WA	34-	3260	356	Spokane	Paxson	46-36-04N	117-17-53W
WI	46z	3000	150	Antigo	Cardinal	45-22-50N	89-11-22W
WY	11+	316	316	Jackson	KM Comms.	43-27-40N	110-45-09W

The Ontario station becomes Canada's second (and most powerful) religious TV station. Crossroads produces the "100 Huntley Street" program which I've seen on my local WHTN-39. (and I believe airs throughout Canada?) A competing application for a Toronto religious station was denied, for non-technical reasons. WFLX-DT's power appears in the FCC Public Notices as 21601KW, obviously a typo. It's correct in the database, as 216.01KW.

New-station permits expired, dismissed, etc.:

St	City	Ch	# permits	St	City	Ch	# permits
AZ	Sierra Vista	35	1	SD	Rapid City	21	1
AZ	Tucson	68	1	TX	Fort Worth	61	1
AZ	Yuma	36	1	TX	Fredericksburg	2	8
AR	Harrison	31	3	TX	Uvalde	26	1
CA	Cupertino	24	1	WA	Spokane	34	11
CO	Durango	33	2	WI	Antigo	46	5
IA	Cedar Rapids	58	1	WI	Wausau	33	1
MO	Joplin	65	1	WY	Jackson	11	3

APPLICATIONS TO CHANGE EXISTING FACILITIES

St	Ch	ERP	HAAT	Call	City	Latitude	Longitude
CA	46	4.03		K11RL	Litchfield	40-26-47N	120-21-24W
CO	49	2.78		K33AE	Cortez		
CO	48	15.7		K33DN	Denver	39-43-59N	105-14-12W
IL	7z			WLS-TV	Chicago	41-52-44N	87-38-08W
LA	8+			KNOE-TV	Monroe	32-11-50N	92-04-14W
MO	4-		343	KMOV	St. Louis		
NJ	69	3.9		W36BJ	Atl. City		
OH	39+	84		W35BA	Cincinnati		

APPLICATIONS TO CHANGE EXISTING FACILITIES

OH	66	6		W21AI	Portsmouth		
OR	8-	240		KGW	Portland		
QU	4z	0.238	nc	CBMCT	Chibougamau	49-52-29N	74-23-00W
QU	5+	0.575	nc	CBFAT	Chibougamau		

WLS and KNOE's changes are correction of coordinates; the towers have not actually moved. KGW's change is for an auxiliary backup transmitter, not the main unit. W35BA's application is contrary to information in the April VUD which suggested the station would surrender its license and go dark.

APPLICATIONS TO CHANGE CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

St	Ch	ERP	HAAT	Call	City	Latitude	Longitude
CO	32-	22.2		K32EO	Colo. Springs		
IA	56+	20		K30EN	Ames	41-58-49N	93-44-24W
IA	46-	150		K23DM	Des Moines		
MI	40+	13.5		WMKG-LP	Muskegon		
MT	10+	217	711	KBCC	Belena	46-49-35N	111-42-33W
NC	52z	7.3		W52CW	Charlotte		
NM	19-		480	KADO	Santa Fe	35-24-44N	106-43-32W
NV	21+			KUPN	Las Vegas	36-00-28N	115-00-25W
NV	47+	0.03		KUVR-LP	Reno		
NY	26-	9.66		WNGN-LP	Troy	42-47-08N	73-37-45W
NY	27+			W27BJ	Utica	43-02-09N	75-11-10W
ON	12	86		CHCH-2	London		
TX	28+	40		K17EK	Brownsville	25-58-58N	97-30-39W
TX	59+			K59FQ	Victoria	28-46-44N	96-57-39W
UT	60z	16.1		K60GA	Provo	40-16-41N	111-55-58W
UT	21z			K21EY	Spanish Fork	40-16-41N	111-55-58W
WV	53-	50.08		W53BJ	Charleston	38-22-32N	81-39-25W

The KPXX-DT application is to change from channel 28 to channel 29. KUVR-LP's power must be a typo (probably actually 30KW) as the transmitter output is 10KW. I don't know why they want to change on channel 47 right after completing a move to channel 68. CHCH-TV-2 was originally authorized channel 51. I don't know the offset on channel 12. A directional antenna will probably be required to protect WICU Erie, PA and possibly WJRT Flint, MI. (Ontario DXers, it could have been worse: there were rumors they'd planned to move to channel 3 instead!)

CHANGES GRANTED TO EXISTING FACILITIES

St	Ch	ERP	HAAT	Call	City	Latitude	Longitude
AL	54z	1260	603	WZDX	Huntsville	43-38-00N	86-30-47W
CA	68-	2		KNLA-LP	Los Angeles		
CA	55n	9.29		K55AP	Sta. Barbara		
FL	43+	2265	303	WBSF	Melbourne		
GA	53-	111.5		W53BR	Fayetteville	33-46-15N	84-23-10W
ME	21n	15		W21BI	Farmington	44-39-24N	70-11-52W
MO	26-	113.2	292	KOZJ*	Joplin		
NC	2z		472	WUND-TV	Columbia		
NM	61z	18		K61EQ	Albuquerque		
NV	44n	16.2		K44BE	Fallon		
OK	66-	38.65		K66EK	Bartlesville		
UT	36n	0.2567		K36D2	Laketown		
WY	33-	2951	134	KRTU	Cheyenne		

W53BR moves from W22AH Columbus, GA. The antenna will be on the Nations Bank Building in Atlanta.

Changes expired, dismissed, etc.:

St	City	Ch	Call	St	City	Ch	Call
CA	Arroyo Gde.	8	K08MD	CA	Lompoc	19	K19DE
CA	Monterey	43	K67EU	CA	Sacramento	35	K62DO
CO	Cortez	49	K33AE	KY	Talbert	64	W14CC
LA	Baton Rouge	50	K13VE	ME	Bangor	17	W17BF
NJ	Camden	49	W68CV	VT	Burlington	30	W30BL

CHANGES GRANTED TO CONSTRUCTION PERMITS

St	Ch	ERP	HAAT	Call	City	Latitude	Longitude
AR	42z	3400	334	KYPX	Little Rock	34-47-56N	92-29-44W
CA	33-	24.38		K33EG	Bishop	37-22-32N	118-23-37W
CA	32z	24.1		K32EQ	Fresno	37-04-13N	119-25-31W
CO	32-	22.2		K32EO	Colo. Springs		
LA	40z	14.1		K40DZ	Lafayette		
MI	40+	13.5		WMKG	Muskegon		
MS	69z	2.42		W69DY	Tunica		
NC	52z	7.3		W52CW	Charlotte		
ND	2+			K02PD	Fargo	46-52-58N	96-47-44W
NY	26-	9.66		WNGN	Troy	42-47-08N	73-37-45W
OK	61n	0.559		K61BY	Altus	34-38-20N	99-21-19W
TX	69n	6.34		K69FW	Clear Lake C.	29-35-33N	95-03-11W
UT	39n			K39DH	Ogden	41-09-57N	112-00-52W
UT	60z	16.1		K60GA	Provo	40-16-41N	111-55-58W

The Altus, Oklahoma changes also apply to K63BE, K65BF, K67BO, and K69EP.

TECHNICAL CHANGES ON THE AIR

St	Ch	Call	City	What happened
AK	9n	K09OT	Valdez	huge power & minor tower height increases, move a few meters NW.
AR	22-	KKYK-LP	Little Rock	negligible power decrease.
CA	53z	K53DU	Hemet	moderate power decrease.
CA	67n	K67AO	Ridgecrest	huge power increase, minor tower height decrease.
FL	56z	WOPX	Melbourne	moderate power & tower height increases, move about 50km NW.
IN	69+	W69BT	South Bend	moderate power & tower height increases, move about 25km NW.
MI	40+	WMKG-LP	Muskegon	moderate power & tower height increases; move from no offset; move about 9km northeast.
NC	33z	WUNF-TV*	Asheville	moderate power & tower height increases, go elliptical polarization
NM	57n	K57AB	Colfax	minor power decrease.
NM	64z	K64FB	Portales	moderate power increase & tower height decrease; move a few meters southeast.
NV	68+	KUVR-LP	Reno	move from ch. 47+; huge power decrease & tower height increase; move about 30km south-southwest.
OR	66n	K66EJ	Newberg	major power increase.
QU	46z	CKMI-TV-1	Montreal	moderate power increase.
SD	24n	KKRA-LP	Rapid City	huge power & moderate tower height increases; move about 5km north.
TN	39z	WYHB-LP	Chattanooga	moderate power & tower height increases; move about 6km NE.
TX	49-	KBVO-LP	Austin	moderate power & large tower height increases; move about 10km NW.
UT	35n	K35EW	Heber	Move from channel 9.
UT	32n	K32EJ	Woodland	Huge power increase.
WA	60n	K60FX	Kennewick	moderate power increase.
WA	39-	K39DL	Moses Lake	moderate power decrease.

NEW STATIONS GRANTED/REQUESTING OPERATING LICENSES OR NOTED ON THE AIR

St	Ch	ERP	HAAT	Call	City	Latitude	Longitude
AL	50+	24.6		W50BO	Ashville	33-47-51N	86-12-45W
AR	42z	3400	334	KYPX	Little Rock	34-47-56N	92-29-44W
AZ	13	?		K13XC	Whiteriver	?	?
CA	9-	0.065		K09WI	Bakersfield	35-22-08N	119-00-14W
CA	25-	21.5		K25FT	Bakersfield	35-22-08N	119-00-14W
CA	18z	14.3		K18FF	S Luis Obispo	35-21-38N	120-39-21W
CO	47+	0.05		K47FJ	Manitou Sprs.	38-51-50N	104-54-48W
FL	67z	3980	128	WPXP	Lake Worth	26-45-47N	80-12-19W

NEW STATIONS GRANTED/REQUESTING OPERATING LICENSES OR NOTED ON THE AIR

FL	25-	5000	201	WJXX	Orange Park	30-04-27N	81-48-23W
GA	52+	13.3		W52CL	Macon	32-45-09N	83-33-35W
HI	18*	5.4	-180	KBVO-DT	Hilo	19-43-57N	155-04-04W
HI	40*	8.5	1	KITV-DT	Honolulu	21-17-37N	157-50-34W
KS	21-	191	76	RDCK*	Dodge City	37-49-30N	100-10-36W
LA	40z	11.8		K40DZ	Lafayette	30-02-54N	91-59-49W
LA	24+	1		K24EO	Rayville	32-27-22N	91-39-27W
LA	26-	1		K26EV	Rayville	32-27-22N	91-39-27W
MT	11+	3.02	631	KUFM-TV*	Missoula	46-48-09N	113-58-21W
NE	61z	0.17		K61GA	Omaha	41-15-28N	95-56-20W
NM	29+	0.133		K29PD	Lordsburg	32-18-58N	108-45-18W
NV	31+	10.4		K31DO	Las Vegas	35-58-04N	115-30-03W
NV	31+	1.33		K31DO	Las Vegas	35-56-43N	115-02-32W
NV	47z	18.9		K47EG	Laughlin	35-14-58N	114-44-34W
NY	39+	38.8		W39CE	Glens Falls	43-01-13N	73-31-27W
NY	16z	4.4		W16BE	Hornell	42-16-05N	77-37-51W
OH	40-	90		W40AM	Masury	41-11-58N	80-31-22W
OK	53z	1780	182	KMWJ	Tulsa	36-02-34N	95-57-11W
PA	62-	8.61		W62CS	Williamsport	41-13-08N	76-57-27W
SC	40+	17.1		W40AW	Beaufort	32-24-05N	80-44-21W
TX	9*	18.6	527	WFAA-DT	Dallas	32-35-06N	96-58-41W
TX	41*	910	424	KXAS-DT	Fort Worth	32-35-07N	96-58-06W
TX	31+	38.4		K31EX	San Antonio	29-26-30N	98-30-28W
TX	22+	9		K22FE	Wichita Falls	33-53-50N	98-32-33W
VT	49-	0.13		W49BU	Manchester	43-09-56N	73-06-59W

KBVO-DT becomes the first digital TV station to request an operating license. K13XC in Arizona doesn't appear in the FCC database.

New wireless-cable systems on the air:

Andalusia, Alabama 31-20-27N 86-28-02W all 1KW, z offset except W49BM which is + W19BV W36BQ W40BE W49BM W57CC W59CQ W65CW

Iowa Falls, Iowa 42-20-10N 93-28-00W K19DX (19-, 1.24KW) K33ED (33-, 1.34KW) K47EK (47+, 1.61KW) K49DZ (49+, 0.77KW) K55GV (55-, 0.8KW) K58FM (59+, 0.8KW) K61GF (61-, 0.731KW) K69GZ (69+, 1.77KW)

Rock Springs, Wyoming 41-29-50N 109-20-36W all 1KW, + offset K14JG K18ER K20FA K30EQ K48FE K56FW K58EW K64EP

STATIONS DELETED/DISMISSED/ETC.

St:	Call:	St:	Call:	St:	Call:	St:	Call:
CA	K16CW	IA	K69HK	ME	W56DD	NC	W40BF
CA	K48DY	IA	K26ER	ME	W54CB	NJ	W44AS
FL	W14CA	LA	K47FC	MT	K64ER	NJ	W44BA
FL	W33BI	LA	K30FC	MT	K68ER	TX	K25ES
IA	K44EU	MD	W52AS	NC	W16BM	TX	K63GD

Ernie Wesolowski reports K53EY Omaha (a TBN) off the air in mid-March.

CALL CHANGES

Was:	Now:	City:	Ch	Was:	Now:	City:	Ch
KNEB	KUBD	Ketchikan, AK	4	K22CQ	KMNO-LP	Monroe, LA	22
KVUT	KYPX	Little Rock, AR	42	K15EG	KADO-LP	Shreveport, LA	15
New	KBCZ	Holbrook, AZ	11	W04AK	WGCI-LP	Waterville, ME	4
KAJW	KPFK	Tolleson, AZ	51	KBCC	KMTF	Helena, MT	10
K68EP	KQJA-LP	Fresno, CA	68	K59ER	KVPX-LP	Las Vegas, NV	59
K26CO	KGEC-LP	Redding, CA	26	K47CO	KUVR-LP	Reno, NV	47
New	KPMR	Santa Barbara, CA	38	WMGC	WIWT	Binghamton, NY	34
New	KBDM	Yreka City, CA	20	W27BO	WJOS-LP	Pomeroy, OH	27
WIRB	WOPX	Melbourne, FL	56	K31EM	KWEM-LP	Stillwater, OK	31
WCTD	WPXM	Miami, FL	35	KJLF	KKWB	El Paso, TX	65
W53HI	WSWB-LP	Valdosta, GA	53	KSGI	KXIV	Cedar City, UT	4
New	KBDL	Pocatello, ID	31	KOOG	KUPX	Ogden, UT	30
WCFC	WCPX	Chicago, IL	38	KZAR	KUWB	Provo, UT	16

CALL CHANGES

WFHL	WCPX	Decatur, IL	23	WJCB	WPXV	Norfolk, VA	49
WCPX	WPXU	Decatur, IL	23	W14BN	WXOB-LP	Richmond, VA	14
W51BU	WIPX-LP	Indianapolis, IN	51	KBGE	KNPX	Bellevue, WA	33
New	KBDR	Boisington, KS	14				

WFHL [23] changed to WCPX, then changed their mind & decided to get WPXU instead. (freeing up WCPX for use at a co-owned Chicago station) Again, all the PX stations are with the new PaxNet network, and the KBD- calls were randomly assigned by the FCC. (and will probably be changed before the stations go on the air.) For what it's worth, as of late March, 511 LPTV stations had replaced their alphanumeric calls with -LP calls. That's a little over 7% of all LPTVs.

PROGRAMMING CHANGES

Call:	Location:	Programming:
K49DF	Phoenix, AZ	sold to KUSK [7].
K55FU	Escondido, CA	sold to 3ABN.
WEVU-LP [7]	Fort Myers, FL	to UPN.
WBSP-LP [9]	Naples, FL	to UPN.
WTVK [46]	Naples, FL	from UPN to WB.
WNGM-TV [34]	Athens, GA	sold to HSC.
K07WE	Baton Rouge, LA	sold to KMCT [39], religious
K40DZ	Lafayette, LA	religious.
K22CQ	Monroe, LA	sold to Great Oaks, owners of ANC, UPN, and WB affiliate LPTVs elsewhere in Louisiana.
KCWB [29]	Kansas City, MO	from WB to UPN.
KSMO [62]	Kansas City, MO	from UPN to WB.
W20BP	Natchez, MS	sold to KMCT [39], religious
K42EO	Missoula, MT	sold to TBN.
K61GA	Omaha, NE	new, 3ABN.
K30FH	Las Cruces, NM	sold to KRPV [27], TBN.
KTLC [43]	Oklahoma City, OK	sold to UPN.
KBSP-TV [22]	Salem, OR	sold to PaxNet.
W54AQ	Yaucou, PR	sold to WCCV [54], religious.
KTRG [10]	Del Rio, TX	UPN. (and Fox?)
K52FR	Harlingen, TX	Worship/Nl.
K30FF	La Feria, TX	Spanish-language religion.
K32ER	McAllen, TX	off the air.
K67HC	McAllen, TX	Spanish religion // K30FF.
K55GJ	Raymondville, TX	Spanish religion // K30FF.
KMOL-TV [4]	San Antonio, TX	drops UPN, now NBC only.
K59FQ	Victoria, TX	Univision.
W42BE	Fairfax, VA	sold to religious organization (former owners of WTKK [66] Manassas)

OTHER STUFF

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 required the FCC to, every two years, review its multiple-ownership regulations. The Commission has issued a Notice of Inquiry asking for comments on seven specific regulations:

- **National TV Ownership Rule.** This rule limits one owner to stations reaching 35% of all TV homes. (but only half of these homes count for a UHF station, see below)
- **UHF Television Discount.** This policy means that only half the viewers to a UHF station count when determining whether an owner is exceeding the 35% of the national audience it's allowed to reach with multiple stations.
- **Dual Network Rule.** This rule prohibits common ownership of any two of the major TV networks (ABC, CBS, Fox, NBC), or of any one of the major networks and either of the minor networks. (UPN, WB)
- **Daily Newspaper/Broadcast Cross-Ownership Rule.** This rule prohibits one company from owning a daily newspaper and a radio or TV station in the same city. (however, it's frequently waived)
- **Cable/TV Cross-Ownership Rule.** This rule prohibits ownership of a TV station and cable system in the same market.
- **Local Radio Ownership Rules.** (as the name suggests, these don't affect TV)
- **Experimental Broadcast Station Multiple Ownership Rule.** This limits how many experimental broadcast stations may be licensed to the same owner.

10 Separate proceedings are already considering the **Television Duopoly Rule** (which prohibits a company from owning two or more TV stations with overlapping "Grade B" signals) and the **One-to-a-Market Rule**.

(which prohibits common ownership of a radio and TV station in the same market. This rule is often waived.)

Many TV engineers are discovering some surprises in the new digital tables -- their stations are being required to use directional antennas for their DTV operations. Some of these DTV patterns are extremely tight, and some engineers fear it may not actually be possible to build the antennas required. Under the existing regulations, the nulls in the directional pattern of a TV transmitting antenna may not exceed 10dB. (15dB for UHF) I've plotted a few DTV patterns using data off the FCC Web Page, and they're reminiscent of patterns used at AM stations! (if you aren't familiar with AM directional antennas, many have nulls of 30dB or more - sometimes so much more that there are places where you can see the transmitting antenna but can't hear the station!)

Note that a CP has now been granted for the long-awaited new channel 2 in Fredericksburg, Texas. Whether a NTSC facility will actually be built on this channel is a good question.

Please note my new email address. The old Compuserve address will be phased out soon. Thanks to Chip Kelley, Fernando Garcia, Ernie Wesolowski, and Mike Lazaro for information appearing elsewhere in this month's column. According to Chip, KXAS-DT [41] began operation on the last day of March with the Texas Rangers' home opener.

FORUM

Jeff Kadet, Macomb IL:

Jeff has some information on TV in Indonesia. The country has six TV networks:

- **Televisi Republik Indonesia (TVRI)**
- **Rajawali Citra Televisi Indonesia (RCTI)**
- **Andalas Telvisi (AN-TV)**
- **Indosair**
- **Surya Citra Televisi (SCTV)**
- **Televisi Pendidikan Indonesia (TPI)**

TPI, RCTI, and Indosair carry non-Western programming and are heavily Islamic. The other stations carry a variety of American and other Western programs (including Ricki Lake, which Jeff found quite surprising in such a conservative country). Also aired are soap operas, a *Family Feud* clone called *Famli 100*, many children's shows, and "Hindi movies badly dubbed into English with Bahasa Indonesian subtitles."

An evening newscast is carried on all six networks in parallel. Normally, stations sign off around 1am. But during Idul Fitri (an Islamic celebration of the end of Ramadan), they stay on all night. My understanding is this is common practice for broadcast stations in all Islamic countries. Indonesian TV is fully commercial, with most ads for household products and beauty aids. Jeff's motel room sported a rather unusual TV antenna. I've forwarded the photo he shot to Jeff Kruszka for Photo News; maybe one of our members can identify it?

Fernando Garcia, Monterrey NL:

The bilingual religious LPTV network in south Texas has changed its name from "Family Television Network" to "La Familia Television Network". K30FF, K55GJ, and K67HC operate in parallel with Spanish-language religion, though the ID doesn't mention K55GJ. K52FR shows "La Familia Television Network" on their ID too, but programming is Worship and Network 1.

Danny Ogleshorpe, Shreveport LA:

Danny sent more excellent ID photos, especially from Mexico. He also sent word his local LPTV K15EG seems to be on regular schedule now, with NET. Another item from the Shreveport *Times* hints at the programming of KNTS-LP [17] Natchitoches. The station expects to be on the air about the time you read this. A satellite network is planned, but the station manager wouldn't tell the paper which one.

DX ETC.

Congratulations to Sheldon Remington on his record-breaking tropo reception! To the best of my knowledge, this exceeds by over 1000km the longest tropospheric reception ever reported, on any frequency and by any radio service. One has to wonder, how much further can this duct go? Honduras? When will someone in California log a Hawaiian station?

73 Doug

It's been a lukewarm tropo season here in Baton Rouge, but maybe not where you're from. If you've taped some DX or photographed it off-air, why not send it in? We need your photos! Here's some more fantastic E-skip from the summer of '97, from Dxpert Danny Oglethorpe, Shreveport, LA:



YSR-2 San Salvador, ES
1324 mi Es seen 9/21/97
@1029 CT
"Tele Dos"



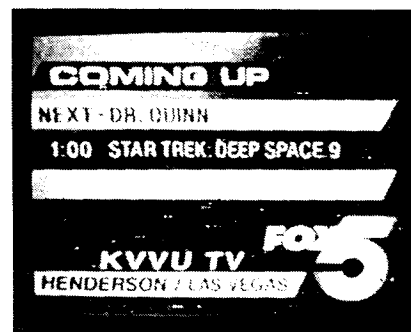
YSR-2 San Salvador, ES
1324 mi Es seen 9/21/97
@1029 CT
"2 wrapped around globe"



WDTV-5 Weston, WV
876 mi Es seen 5/31/97
@2140 CT



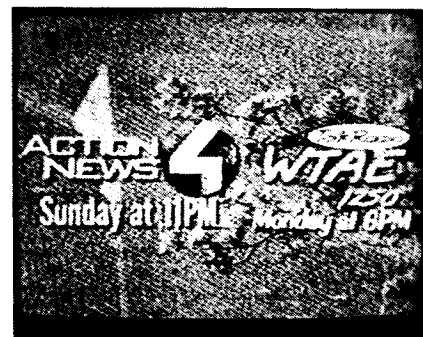
WTVH-5 Syracuse, NY
1212 mi Es seen 8/4/97
@1120 CT



KVVU-5 Henderson, NV
1238 mi Es seen 6/25/97
@1359 CT



KHMT-4 Hardin, MT
1184 mi Es seen 7/20/97
@1110 CT
"The Best of Billings"



WTAE-4 Pittsburgh, PA
945 mi Es seen 8/1/97
@1759 CT



KHATU-5 Atotonilco, JAL
1000 mi Es seen 12/11/96
@1420 CT
"Those Mexicans and their ever-creative ID's, hll -jtk"



BREAK TIME

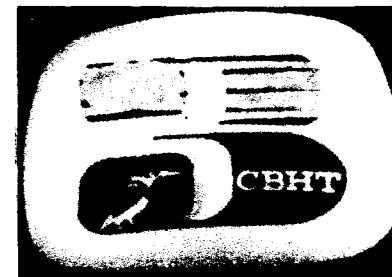
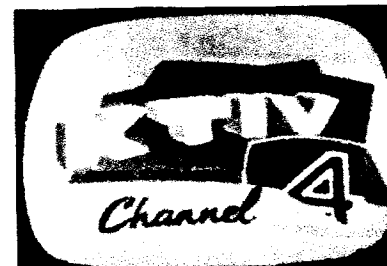
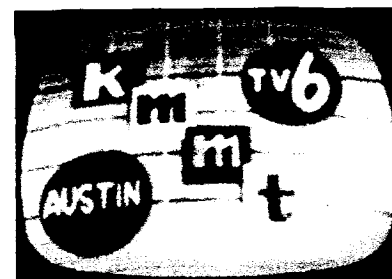
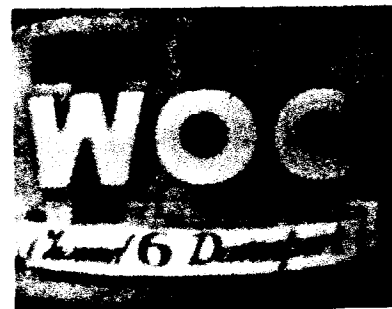
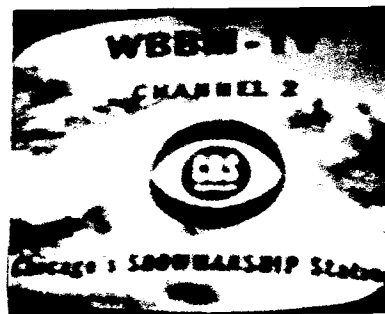
If you've ever rubbed elbows with Bill Eckberg at a WTFDA convention, you've probably seen part of his enormous collection of ID, color bar, and test pattern slides.

From his northwestern Illinois location, he has clicked the shutter almost 3500 times. No matter that some are less than perfect; they're a DXer's dream...and many are historic.

Bill was kind enough to bring his collection to Nashville so I could scan, store and digitally enhance them as much as possible.

The 12 featured this month are some of my personal favorites from Bill's arsenal. All of these shots are between 35 and 45 years old. The staff artists are the stars as we recall an e-skip visit from KSL-TV in Salt Lake City; a child in a garden for KGLO-TV in Mason City; WBBM-TV in Chicago takes a plain-Jane approach; and KSTP-TV in St. Paul/Minneapolis features its' studio and tower.

The shots on the next page speak for themselves...but look carefully at the last one. KWK-TV (4) in St. Louis was the original call for the CBS station which was later owned by the network as KMOX-TV and is now KMOV. *Thanks Bill!*



Southern FM DX

John Zondlo
4009 Driftwood Circle
Yukon, OK 73099
E-mail: jpzondlo@aol.com
Deadline: 10th

May 1998

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

Check out FM DX Web! <http://members.aol.com/fmdxweb>

Doug Smith - WSWI
1385 Old
Clarksville Pike
Pleasant View, TN
37146-8088
wswi@bellsouth.net
CST

Technics ST-G50 tuner, big Radio Shack VHF-TV antenna at 15'

A little bit of DX last month, for the first time in ages. Also a new logging, the "dirty" way.

3/22 gw
???? WNPL 106.7 TN Belle Meade, new local 20
3/26 Tr
0614 KDBB 104.3 MO Bonne Terre, Farmington ad 215
0650 KTXR 101.3 MO Springfield 328
0650 KYKY 98.1 MO St. Louis 233
0658 KHCR 97.7 MO Potosi 229
0701 KXOK 97.1 MO Florissant 259

WAMB-FM-1, the "FM translator of an AM station" in Donelson went silent for a few weeks after being bumped by WNPL. It's now turned up on 98.7. Haven't logged it from home yet, WHOP-FM (KY) is too strong. Also, I think I'm hearing the new American Family station in Lawrenceburg on 90.7, but they don't seem to be too fond of IDing on the hour, and I'm not willing to listen for a full hour to try to figure out when they do ID.

AM-FM-PSB-TV DX Legend Passes Away

Henry Scofield Holbrook or "Hank" as he was known to his friends, died of leukemia on April 15 at the age of 69 in the Washington Hospital Center. He lived in Tracy's Landing, MD.

Hank was an avid DXers (all band/DC to light) and chased after wallpaper like no other in our hobby. He DXed it all and collected QSLs from everything he heard. VHF draw bridges, ships, broadcasters, TISs, VHF/UHF comms, etc. If Hank could hear it, he would QSL it.

He supported clubs, commercial magazines and other organizations with his information and insight.

Please take a second or two today to remember the passing of a great DX'er.

--Larry Van Horn, MONITORING TIMES/SATELLITE TIMES



John Zondlo
4009 Driftwood Circle
Yukon, OK 73099
jpzondlo@aol.com
CST

Akai AT-VO4 tuner (modified with 2 150 kHz IF filters), Channel Master Stereo Probe 9 antenna. All new.

3/23 Tr
0135 KJOV 90.7 OK Woodward, hot AC Christian
0200 KCVW 94.3 KS Kingman, Bott Radio Net ID
0204 KHVM 103.9 KS Copeland, ID, hymns
0318 K210BQ 89.9 OK Woodward, KJIL 99.1 btlr
3/25 Tr
0819 WTIK 94.3 LA Galliano, o

From the Editor



Kind of a light month, report-wise. Hopefully you're getting some DX now with the season well underway.

Thanks to so many of you for your comments about FM DX Web. Hopefully it'll benefit your FM DXing experience. And be sure to join a bunch of your fellow WTFDAers in our IRC chat room Tuesday and Friday evenings as we catch up on what's being heard.

Catch y'all next month!

WESTERN TV-DX

May 1998

Victor Frank
12450 Skyline Blvd.
Woodside, CA 94062-4554
e-mail frank@horizon.srl.com
(650)851-7031

Dennis Park Smith, 3703 Dixon Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93105-2419 (805)687-7803

This report is for March 1998.

There was not nearly as much rain/stormy conditions as there was in February. February was devoid of southern-CA coastal tropo on TV-FM until the end of the month. March was a little better, as the storms were further apart, allowing air to stabilize occasionally somewhat into layers for ducting.

Feb. 28: Very Poor
Mar. 1: Poor to fair
Mar. 2: Fair to poor
Mar. 3-7: No tropo (a little rain Mar. 5 eve)
Mar. 8-9: Poor
Mar. 10: No tropo
Mar. 11: Very poor
Mar. 12: Poor
Mar. 13-18: No tropo (a little rain Mar. 13 eve)
Mar. 19: Eve, very poor
Mar. 20: Poor
Mar. 21: Poor to fair
Mar. 22: Fair
Mar. 23: Poor
Mar. 24: Very poor to none (rain Mar. 24 eve-25)
Mar. 25-31: No tropo (rain Mar. 31)

Best of DX to all. Dennis

Danny Oglethorpe, P.O. Box 6688, Shreveport, LA 71136-6688

March 1998		UTC
14 tr	1045 Biloxi 13,19	319
	WXXV 25MS	309
	Mobile 15 (o/KADO), 21	355
	1110 WJTCI 44FL Bars	
24 tr	0415 Valley 4,5,7,9,17,23,44,48	491-513 mi
	0550 Corpus Christi 10,16	385
	0629 WXXV 25MS	309
	0755 San Antonio 5,29,41	347
	0845 WLOX 13MS	319
	Went to bed	
	1450 WPMI 15AL o/KADO	355
	1505 KORO 28TX	385
25 tr	0030 Same stations as previous night	
	0255 XHMTA1 11TA Spanish	
	0335 KAVU 25TX	314
	0420 unID 22 Spanish o/KLTJ; SW	
	0650 KYPX 42AR "Info Mail"	183
	0730 San Antonio/Kernville 23, 25	
	0815 KTAB 32TX	348
	KJTL 18TX Shop at home	293
	Went to bed	
	1300 Oklahoma City VHF and UHF	303
	1315 KOCV 36TX ID bars	505
	KAMC 28TX	476
	1338 unID 44 Infomercial; NW	

	1345 KJTV	34TX	476
	1420 Lubbock	5,11, 13	476
26 tr	0359 KRBC	9TX	348
26 tr	0415 unID	8TX Note #1	
	0510 KGNS	8TX	481
28 Es	0210 XHAGU	2AGS XEQ	896
	unID	2 XEW	
	0240 XHFM	2VER "Televisa Veracruz"	950
28 tr	1455 KLRN	9TX	347
	KGNS	8TX	481
29 tr	0720 KOLR	10MO	335
	0835 KRBC	9TX KRBC/KACB ID card	348
	0845 KFDX	3TX Local off	293
	0945 Oklahoma City 4, 5, 9		
	1045 KSWO	7OK	309
	1115 KMD	2TX	487
	KAUZ	6TX ID card	293
	1145 KWES	9TX ID at bottom	505
	KTAB	32TX	348

April 1998 UTC
1 tr 1310 WXXV 25MS 309

Note #1--This station was running a drama while most other stations were airing news. They ran a promo for "Eyewitness News 4."

The independent channel 5 from Jalisco that Jeff Kruzka and I saw in December is from Guadalajara. Fernando Garcia's fine detective work identified the station's location. According to Fernando, XEDK-6 has discontinued operation.

Fernando has also confirmed my reception of XEFE-2 Nuevo Laredo. He recognized the veterinary clinic street name and the Arena Palenque Expomex. Many, many thanks to Fernando!

My new local LPTV channel 15 runs IDs on the hour. The calls are KADO. Slogan is "The news channel for Shreveport." Their programming is America's Choice.

Reception of the west Texas stations marks my first tropo west of Abilene since Thanksgiving week 1996!

Fernando Garcia, San Salvador 415, Rincon de la Sierra, 67181 Cd Guadalupe, NL, MEXICO
Equipment:

Sony KV-27EXR15, Screened CM 7' dish 85', RG 11, UA900 amp. Sony KV-13TR27, CM 1110 30', CM 8 bay UHF array 60'.

1800' ASL, No re-logs in the same month, only tropo 500+ miles.

EASTERN TV DX

Russell Miller
HC 61, Box 86B

N. Amity, ME 04471-9622
email address - estvdx@aipn.com

May, 1998

LOCAL TIME UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

Roy Barstow, P.O. Box 2488, Teaticket, MA 02536

January, 1998

25 Ms	0517	WUNC	4	NC	3/4 CB	607
	0536	WTAE	4	PA	R.S.	488
27 Ms	0529	WRC	4	DC	R.S.	387
30 Ms	0340	WPVI	6	PA	on ICOM	265

February, 1998

01 Ms	0515	KMTV	3	NE		1311
		America's Store - Call L/R				
	0525	WCIA	3	IL		936
02 Tr	0230	CBHT-3	11	NS		279
	1900	WQAV	34	NJ		240
		Shopping 24 hrs				
	2230	W45BG	45	VA		455
	2300	W36BK	36	VA		400
04 Ms	0605	WCAX	3	VT		231
08 Tr	1930	E. VA. Plus				
		WSFX	26	NC		660
		WUNJ	39	NC		660

09 Tr	1300 to 1900					
		WPXQ	69	RI	3/4 C.B.	
	1800	WHPX	26	CT		102
10 Tr	pm	WPBX	46	MA		40
		WIPX	43	CT		131
		WPXB	60	NH		108
		New Calls Last 5				

13 Ms	0303	WUNC	4	NC	3/4 C.B.	607
14 Ms	0549	WAVE	3	KY	Card	834
20 Ms	0036	WWAY	3	NC		660
	0505	WAVE	3	KY		834
21 Ms	0458	WSIL	3	IL		1007
	0657	WWAY	3	NC		660
23 Ms	0615	WSAV	3	GA	R/S News	883
24 Ms	0622	WWAY	3	NC		660
25 Ms	0046	WBTB	3	NC		715
	0611	WSAV	3	GA		883
	0611	WWAY	3	NC	same burst	660
28 Ms	0416	KIMT	3	IA	3/4 C.B.	1035

March, 1998

01 Ms	0410	CITO	3	ON		706
	0420	KMTV	3	NE		1311
03 Ms	0614	WPSX	3	PA		407
		WPSX TV PS on 3/4 C.B.				
	0648	WTKR	3	VA		455
	0707	WJMN	3	MI		870
		Promo for Alaska				
05 Ms	0542	CBFT2	3	PQ		426
		CBVT2	3	PQ		416
		Same meteor				

07 Ms	0345	WCIA	3	IL		936
	0430	CITO	3	ON		706
	0545	WSIL	3	IL		1007
08 Ms	0654	KIMT	3		3/4 C.B.	1035
16 Ms	0607	WYFF	4	SC		787
18 Ms	0242	WUNC	4	NC		607
19 Ms	0037	WRC	4	DC		387
23 Gw		WPXQ	69	RI		
		now on 24 hrs.				

On March 5, using the Quantum Ant. pointed NW with a clear horizon, picked up test pattern SRC/CBC with Montreal on top. 12 frames then nothing for 10 frames, then 10 more frames of test pattern. CBFT2-3 uses a dir. ant. NW, CBVT2-3 uses a dir. ant. west. The meteor for this reception being somewhere over north On. The meteor reflected the NW beam of CBFT2-3 On. first and then interrupted the west beam of CBVT2-3 on. No zilched frames here, its simply elementary, dear Watson.

Doug Smith, 1385 Old Clarksville Pike, Pleasant View, TN 37146 email - w9wi@bellsouth.net

March, 1998

26 Tr	0530	KYTV	3	MO	Springfield	328
		WHSL	46	(MO)	E St.Louis IL	232
	0535	KXLN	45	TX	Rosenberg	678
		KTHV	11	AR	Little Rock	323
	0606	KOLR	10	MO	Springfield	329
		also KOZK-21, KSPR-33				
	0700	WICS	20	IL	Springfield	268

73 Doug

Editors Report (2-low band-5' above ground+PA)

March, 1998

09 Ms	0554	WTVH	5	NY		453
10 Ms	0412	WCYBT	5	VA		982
11 Ms	0413	CJCHTV	5	NS		225
	0626	WLWT	5	OH		969
12 Ms	0552	CBNT3	5	NF		612
15 Ms	0604	CHRO	5	ON		444
17 Ms	0632	CBC	5	ON	3/4s	
21 Ms	0516	MCTV	5	ON	Slide	
23 Ms	0151	WNEM	5	MI		801
24 Ms	0522	CBAFT	5	NB		90
27 Ms	0552	WRAL	5	NC		897
29 Ms	0139	WDTV	5	WV		798
	0150	WTTG	5	DC		672

Western TV DX F. Garcia's report begins

March 4 CST
0530 KAMC 28 TX Lubbock ABC News, \$, loc out 553
This is my best alert of DX into Lubbock, my local sign on shortly

KPTB	16	TX	Lubbock	Full ID	555
KBZO-LP	51	TX	Woodrow		
				Uni, peaking to color	558
KCBD	11	TX	Lubbock	NBC News	555
0730				Had to leave, opening still alive, mostly stationary	
2300 KADN	15	LA	Lafayette	weak	586

March 5

0230 KLTL	18	LA	Lake Charles	LPB	548
KLPB	24	LA	Lafayette	// ch 18	567
0245 KVHP	29	LA	Lake Charles	FOX 29 logo	530
0700				Opening still showing same channels. We got up to 96 F this day.	

2130 WNOL	38	LA	New Orleans	WB38	694
K55GJ	55	TX	Raymondville	strong TX's Valley	160
				FTN // chs 30, 32, 67, hard to get due to XHVT-54	
2230 WVLA	33	LA	Baton Rouge	adv. B. Rouge Arena	633
WLPB	27	LA	Baton Rouge	under KLDO	638
WLAE	32	LA	New Orleans	Calls, o/u K32ER	694
2300 WCCL	49	LA	New Orleans	HSN	688
WGNO	26	LA	New Orleans	ABC	694
WPMI	15	AL	Mobile	weak, o/u KADN	838

March 6

0100				Southwest Louisiana	
0230				B. Rouge, N. Orleans, Mobile	
WUPL	54	LA	Slidell	weak	705
0530 KLAX	31	LA	Alexandria	ABC News, briefly	618

March 7

0200				Southwest Louisiana	
0545 WGBM	44	LA	Baton Rouge	o/u KLUJ	633
0600				New Orleans	
0715 K66FI	66	LA	Opelousas	TBN	599
2100				Lafayette-Baton Rouge	
2215 K69HD	69	LA	Church Point	KLAF calls	586

March 18

0030				B Rouge, sw Louisiana	
KLPA	25	LA	Alexandria	LPB/ chs 18, 24	619
0400				opening into Louisiana dead	
0630 KDTX	58	TX	Dallas	weak	518
KXTX	39	TX	Dallas	o/K39EL	518

March 19

0530				Southwest Louisiana	
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March 23

0630				southwest Louisiana	
0700 KRIV-26,				barometer 30.06R, humidity 100%, temp 45F	
2015				New Orleans	
2045				B Rouge, Alexandria, LA	
2100 WMPV	21	AL	Mobile	TBN, Calls	842
WEIQ	42	AL	Mobile	APT, SAP	825
WMAH	19	MS	Biloxi	Nature	770
2115 WMAU	17	MS	Bude	// ch 19	697
2130 WXXV	25	MS	Gulfport	FOX, Gulfport advs	764
WPAN	53	FL	Fort Walton	B.Health Scene	869
K56DR	56	LA	Baton Rouge	//WMPV-21	633
2200 W36AC36	36	MS	Mccomb	TBN	710
WAFB	9	LA	Baton Rouge	Full ID, local news	638

WTEV	47	FL	Jacksonville	UPN47, o/u K47DF	1179
WJEB	59	FL	Jacksonville	TBN	1180
				mostly all night in	

March 24

0000 W50CF	50	AL	Mobile	VCC // WPAN-53	817
WDHN	18	AL	Dothan	News 18, wx	982
W52BF	52	AL	Mobile	HSS	818
0015 WDBD	40	MS	Jackson	FOX 40 Bars	754
WAPT	16	MS	Jackson		754
KETK	56	TX	Jacksonville		532
WGIQ	43	AL	Louisville	APT, SAP	987
W58BO	58	MS	Natchez	TBN //WMPV-21	670
0045 WFXX	31	GA	Albany		1066
WFSG	56	FL	Panama City	PBS, SAP	929
0100 K59DG	59	LA	New Orleans	TBN	688
0230 WIIQ	41	AL	Demopolis	APT // chs 42, 43	877
WTXL	27	FL	Tallahassee	ABC news, calls	1031
WHBR	33	FL	Pensacola	HSS, o/WVLA	838
WHOA	32	AL	Montgomery	ABC32, calls	928
0245 WGBG	30	MS	Meridian	Black scr, rel. at 5AM	834
W63BK	63	MS	Meridian	TBN //KETH-14	834
W46AV	46	MS	Pascagoula	TBN	783
0300 WTGS	28	SC	Hardeeville	FOX 28, Full ID	1222
WHNO	20	LA	New Orleans	Rel. o/KHTX	688
0500 WTWG	40	FL	Tallahassee	First news	1030
WLTZ	38	GA	Columbus	Rise in shine	1036
WMCF	45	AL	Montgomery	TBN	965
K46DG	46	LA	Lafayette	//K69HD	587
WAIQ	26	AL	Montgomery	SAP //chs 41,42,43	959
0515 WBHS	50	FL	Tampa	HSN	1116
0530 WMAO	23	MS	Greenwood	//WMAU-17	788
WJSP	28	GA	Columbus	GPTV	1057
0615 WYHS	69	FL	Hollywood	HSN	1242
WBFS	33	FL	Miami	logo	1242
WDZL	39	FL	Miami		1243
WZSV	51	FL	Fort Lauderdale	Telemundo	1242
WHFT	45	FL	Miami	TBN	1244
0645 WFTX	36	FL	Cape Coral	FOX, calls, cable 4	1142
0700 WGFL	53	FL	High Springs	Full ID, WB53	1121
WGCU	30	FL	Fort Myers		1144
WFLX	29	FL	West Palm Beach		1238
WXEL	42	FL	West Palm Beach	Barney	1238
0715 WMDN	24	MS	Meridian	CBS	834
WSST	55	GA	Cordele	area advs.	1081
WOGX	51	FL	Ocala	FOX51 logo	1123
0730 W36AJ	36	FL	Jacksonville	HSS, color	1175
				had to leave	
0830 WTBC-LP	65	FL	Tallahassee	Calls, TV65, Rel.1025	
W69AY	69	FL	Alachua	Super ch 55 w/WACX-55	1128
				The above two thanks to my wife help!, she could't	
				get ID at 8:00 AM due to the usual fading at time for ID. It	
				seems I missed an all day long opening.	
1845 WWWWB32	FL	Lakeland	WB32		1135
1900 WACX	55	FL	Leesburg	W69AY still in	1180
WRWB	65	FL	Orlando	WB, 65 logo	1192
1915 WVEA-LP	61	FL	Tampa	Univision	1104
1930 WCJB	20	FL	Gainesville	ABC	1121
WTLH	49	GA	Bainbridge		

Western TV DX *F. Garcia's report continues*

1945 WMFE 24 FL Orlando PBS 1191
 WOFL 35 FL Orlando FOX //XHXFO-17 1191
 WBBH 20 FL Fort Myers NBC //WVLA-33 1144
 2030 WKCF 18 FL Clermont WB, calls 1192
 W56CN56 FL Venice //WWWB-32 1106
 2045 DFW, Texas
 2115 WAWS 30 FL Jacksonville FOX30, loc news & wx 1179
 2145 KFWO 52 TX Fort Worth Telemundo 522
 March 25
 0000 KINZ 68 TX Arlington Shop at Home 518
 KHSX 49 TX Irving HSN 518
 KTXA 21 TX Fort Worth UPN 518
 KDAF 33 TX Dallas o/XHLAT 518
 KDFI 27 TX Dallas o/u KLDO 518
 0015 KFKX 51 TX Longview FOX ne TX hdn 557
 Central Florida still in strong
 W68CF 68 FL Tampa TBN 1099
 Jacksonville, FL
 0030 WSWS 66 AL Opelika Nightman 1023
 0045 W41BN41 AL Dothan TBN //WJEB-59 980
 WXTX 54 GA Columbus area advs 1037
 0100 WFTS 28 FL Tampa 28 ABC Tampa Bay 1116
 0115 unid ch 46 HSS WPCT-Panama city, FL?
 0130 unid FOX 28 with Baywatch
 0415 KLRT 16 AR Little Rock ID Bars blasting in 782
 KASN 38 AR Pine Bluff ID Bars, not KJTM calls 772
 Lubbock, Texas
 KWHB 47 OK Tulsa Joyce Meyer 765
 KSBI 52 OK Oklahoma City calls up left 692
 0430 KJTL 18 TX Wichita Falls Shop at Home 598
 WJXX 25 FL Orange Park Logo, wx 1163
 W68CM 68 FL Panama City TBN, north FL hdn 943
 0445 WGNX 46 GA Atlanta calls, wx 1104
 WUPA 69 GA Atlanta news 1100
 WPGA 58 GA Perry Calls, wx 1115
 WFIQ 36 AL Florence APT, SAP 964
 0500 WIAT 42 AL Birmingham Full ID, CBS 969
 WMGU 41 GA Macon NBC News 1115
 WTJP 60 AL Gadsden TBN 998
 0515 WABW 14 GA Pelham GPTV 1048
 KLFT-LP 21 LA Lafayette VJN 592
 WDCO 29 GA Cochran GPTV //chs 14,28 1125
 WATL 36 GA Atlanta Garfield 1104
 WWSG 63 GA Monroe TBN 1119
 KWBJ-LP 39 LA Morgan City calls 618
 0530 WCOV 20 AL Montgomery Full ID 958
 WPBA 30 GA Atlanta SAP, PBS 1103
 WACS 25 GA Dawson GPTV 1041
 WFBF 50 TN Memphis HSN 904
 WCFT 33 AL Tuscaloosa ABC 33/40 924
 0545 KWMJ 53 OK Tulsa Shop at Home 766
 KTLC 43 OK Oklahoma City unid Bars, pr at 6AM 706
 KTFO 41 OK Tulsa UPN test pattern //KWEX 766
 0556 WGNX-46-GA barometer 30.32R, humidity 96%, temp 48
 WGNM 64 GA Macon area advs, mx videos 1115
 0600 KLAFLP 62 LA Opelousas 600
 W52BC 52 AL Salem TBN 928
 KTBO 14 OK Oklahoma City TBN //KXAM 705
 KOKH 25 OK Oklahoma City FOX 703

0615 KVTH 26 AR Hot Springs VTN 739
 0645 KMNZ 62 OK Oklahoma City/u/o strong KAKW
 K50Bit 50 TX Ballinger w/KMLM-42 (915) ph
 unid ch 69 Religious Tulsa hdn
 0700 KARD 14 LA West Monroe FOX14, ne hdn 659
 KOKI 23 OK Tulsa FOX, o/u KVEO & KHCE 766
 WTT0 21 AL Homewood 21 logo 969
 0800 K36AB 36 OK Lawton OETA 631
 K24AD 24 TX Wichita Falls PBS 579
 WABM 68 AL Birmingham o/u K68DJ 966
 0900 WPGD 50 TN Hendersonville TBN 1102
 WNAB 58 TN Nashville 700 Club 1068
 thanks to Doug Smith for helping check programming
 0930 WUXP 30 TN Nashville calls 1079
 0945 WPTY 24 TN Memphis ABC24, Montel at 4 PM 904
 1000 WLMT 30 TN Memphis Calls 901
 Had to leave
 2000 KMPX 29 TX Decatur Full ID 537
 2045 Extending up to Tulsa
 2100 Gulf open to Mobile, AL
 2145 KLTS 24 LA Shreveport LPB 616
 KMSS 33 LA Shreveport FOX, calls 615
 2200 Tuscaloosa, AL
 Little Rock, AR
 March 26
 0130 All night mostly same areas
 KYPXt 42 AR Little Rock pay advs.
 Nashville, TN
 0230 WJFB 66 TN Lebanon Shop at Home //KZJL-61 1093
 0515 KLDT 55 TX Lake Dallas Shop 544
 0530 KPOB 15 MO Poplar Bluff ABC news, calls 961
 KOZK 21 MO Springfield begins progr., calls 906
 KDEB 27 MO Springfield FOX27, calls 905
 KSPR 33 MO Springfield ABC33 906
 0545 WLOV 27 MS West Point unid bars, begins 6 AM 872
 KLDO-27 was off for a few hours,
 normal is 24 hours on the air
 0600 WJSU 40 AL Anniston ABC 33/40 992
 2115 Gulf open to Mobile, AL
 March 27
 0215 W29BH29 MS Biloxi TBN 757
 W39BP39 FL Pensacola Worship 859
 WSRE 23 FL Pensacola o/u KVEO 857
 0230 WJTC 44 FL Pensacola calls, o/u KLUJ 842
 0700 Albany GA
 Jackson MS
 March 28
 0130 LA New Orleans
 0545 AR Pine Bluff
 ne TX
 LA Shreveport
 0630 K49DE 49 LA New Iberia TBN 596
 K65CE 65 LA Shreveport TBN 615
 0700 DFW
 0730 Tulsa OK
 0830 KUVN-LP 31 TX Fort Worth Univision //KLDO-27 521
 1945 sw LA to Mobile, AL
 March 29
 0130 N Orleans, B Rouge, DFW
 0400 AR Pine Bluff
 AL Mobile
 0430 50 TN Memphis

Western TV DX *F. Garcia's report concludes*

0600 TX Lubbock
 K49CD 49 TX Odessa Telemundo 451
 KMLM-42 and other area stations blasting in
 0630 KJTV 34 TX Lubbock w/heavy CCI to XHCNL 552
 KLBK 13 TX Lubbock Pay adv 554
 0700 sw LA
 unid ch 67 educational, peak with K31DZ w/local quality
 0730 KGLR-LP 40 TX Lubbock calls 553
 0800 KXTQ-LP 46 TX Lubbock ID, local progr, not TMD552
 0830 K58EA 58 TX Perryton FOX14 ID's, brief color 725
 K66ABt 66 TX Perryton SMC pay adv.
 unid chs 62, 64 and 68 which match with
 other Perryton translators
 2000 Gulf open to Mobile, AL
 2100 XHDH 11 YU Merida w/XHDF-13 780
 XHTP 9 YU Merida w/XEW-2, o/u XERV 780
 2145 ne TX
 March 30
 0330 sw LA to Panama city, FL
 0515 AL Birmingham
 0630 WPMI-15-AL barometer 29.99R, humidity 100%
 Mobile lpt's
 0700 unid ch 39 with Beverly exercise
 (Okky Angel) // WHBR-33
 0715 W31BB31 FL Pensacola HSS 855
 2130 sw LA to Fort Walton Beach, FL
 2330 dead conditions due to a cold front with dry air

Not a bad month of March, eight new ones were logged. Best days were March 23-30; we had temperatures up to 90s F every day.

March 98 set a new record here for best number of days with tropo openings in a month of March for:

Arkansas and Georgia: 4
 Tennessee: 3

Also best number of stations from Tennessee ever within a month: 7.

73s, Fernando

Postscript from your editor:

TV DXers face a number of problems identifying DX stations which they receive. The greatest problem is probably that the stations identify only infrequently and some incorrectly.

As editor/publisher of *The 50 MHz DX Bulletin*, I receive and publish many reports of radio amateur's DX reception of TV video carriers, and occasionally of TV sound.

Some transmissions betray their country of origin by their frequency, but usually there are many stations on the same frequency within a country or group of countries.

How much information must a TV DXer have before he can count an ID for VUD listings? (Your editor is a newcomer to all this!)

The most obvious ID to me is the call letters on the screen, which may be photographed. At one time I thought that was the only ID that counted. Most program content is carried by several stations simultaneously. News and local commercials are an obvious exception. The sound is a further aid to identification, but is it sufficient by itself? Can I just tune my R-7100 to the TV audio frequencies without even knowing if a picture could be received and count that as a TV reception? Sounds more like an FM station reception, but you don't see such reports in our FM columns. How about non-broadcast TV? Like studio to transmitter links and remote trucks? Do they count? (Probably, not, I don't see satellite TV reception reports here either!)

There are additional identifying parts of a TV transmission, call letters appearing in the vertical blanking interval for instance, multiplex, and second audio program (SAP). Is reception of any one of these alone sufficient?

If any of my readers has been putting off getting his feet wet, and starting TV DXing, I offer the following words of encouragement. Now (or earlier) is the time to start, before most of the UHF channels (in your area) are swallowed by digital and high definition TV.

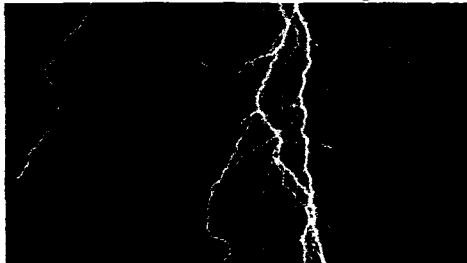
Solar activity is increasing each month. It's still been a bit low for E-W 50 MHz F2-layer propagation (in temperate latitudes), but paths that pass over the geomagnetic equator have been open frequently: our southern states to South America, Europe to Africa, and Asia to Australia/New Zealand.

Bob Cooper, ZL4AAA, of TV DX and satellite TV fame, submitted a report after a couple year's absence. From Far North, New Zealand, during the month of March, he received TV video carriers from Queensland, Australia on 46.17 MHz, from China/USSR on 49.75 MHz, and from NSW Australia on 46.24 MHz.

I have been receiving regular reports from Stuart Kingan, ZK1AA, in the Cook Islands of Hawaiian TV station video carriers by transequatorial scatter propagation. When I questioned him about receiving either a picture or sound, he remarked that they were dispersed too greatly to view or understand.

Now I've seen some photos of TV DX, and have heard some radio amateur signals so close to the noise that one had to use no small amount of imagination to pull them through. I wonder how some of our more experienced viewers would do pulling transequatorial TV DX IDs out of the noise. I suspect that audio only would be a lot easier than video.

Lightning--Striking Me Again and Again and Again!



-by Mike Condon

I have been hit by lightning twice directly and once it struck a tree a city block away. My system was the Channel Master 7 ft dish and the 15 ft VHF antenna with a combination Channel Master two piece amp. The system was on and we were watching UHF when the tree was hit. The RF energy was so powerful that it overloaded the front end pre-amp transistor on the VHF side and left the UHF alone. All other equipment was fine.

My first direct hit was a similar system but with separate amps. There were 3 antennas on a thirty-foot tower on top of my garage, because the village, near Chicago, had an ordinance against towers in the yard. The top antenna was a CB ground plane and was not corrected to the radio. The tower was not grounded and it was not the highest structure in the neighborhood. The ground plane was vaporized. The garage door opener brain fried, a light switch in the kitchen blew off the wall, circuit boards in the FM receiver failed, the TV amps fried, both of them, and the picture tube in the 25-inch Zenith TV turned magenta. I was later able to re-tune it. The insurance company had a living fit.

Here at North Star Valley, 30 miles N of Madison WI, I placed the Strato Beam 160 ft system on line at the end of last Summer. It truly is my DXers dream come true. We built a modest house, our way, on top of a hill with an elevation of 850 ft. Brand new antennas, screened UHF dish Neil Kazaross-style, \$400.00 worth of custom-built amps by RDX Labs, and 3/4 inch hard line separate coax as used by cable TV companies. At the top of the mast there is a 1 inch, 4 ft solid copper lightning rod soldered to it above the dish with the 15 ft Channel Master VHF at the bottom.

I was on my way home and had a clear view miles ahead of me when the storm, not forecasted, was in sight. I saw the long single bolt descend down from the sky...which I knew was over my hill. My heart sunk in my chest and I heard myself exclaim "Please God, I just got that system up, not now, not yet, not this soon!" When I got home, my wife Berta was having trouble hearing me speak and she had spots before her eyes. She said "...you won't believe what just happened!" I trembled with fear and I could not bring myself to ask. She was standing in the garage when the tower was struck. It is directly up-against and behind the garage and the cables come in atop the rafter, make a turn, and go into the house. The blast stunned her hearing and she said it was like standing inside a plasma ball, or that white light people see near death. I have three ground fields extending from each leg of the tower, that's one for each leg with two 8 ft ground rods on each field, the second at the end of the 10 ft run. The ground here is sandy and does not offer good grounding. Where the wires - rotor and coax - meet the house, I have quick-connect molex connectors for the rotor, a \$400.00 Yaesu. I did have the separate coax cables disconnected and the equipment in the house was still connected but turned off. The tower and all its electrical equipment was disconnected and nothing was harmed or damaged. Some kitchen outlets were dead and one breaker in the basement was tripped. I had not completed the grounding to the house system yet. It was looking for more grounding. When I related this story to Jim Dietrich at RDX, he was surprised.

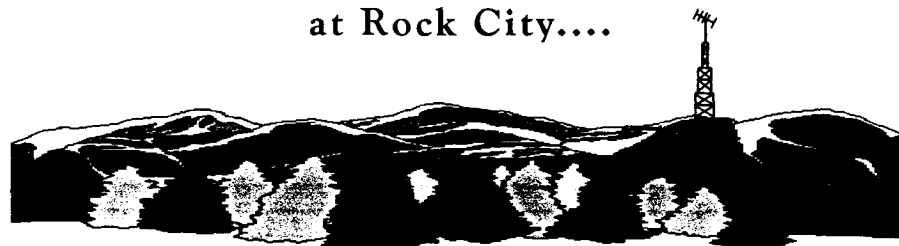
My friend Bill Eckberg, also a long time member of WTFDA, once took a direct hit and was not disconnected--and lost his equipment, rotor and control box as well as the antennas. I hope I got that right, Bill.

Once a direct hit has been made, it is possible the ground enveloping the ground rods has turned to glass, making the ground system less effective or just plain no good anymore. This is why radio and TV stations will sink new ground systems every so often. Some TV stations will sink a water well and never install the pump just to use the well casing for grounding. My system is being extended to my well in the next weeks. Some people pour a salt or brine solution where the ground rods are to maintain good grounding.

There is an excellent video shown on The Learning Channel (TLC) that explains what we know of lightning today. Several "feelers" leave the ground and reach up to meet the main bolt on its way down! One more point: it is known from Space Shuttle photos that for every 50 strikes of lightning that reach the ground, there is one that reaches up into the ionosphere. It is now being proposed that these "Sprites," as they are called, are what causes the ionization in the "E" layer, and thus, E-Skip. 73 to all and a good year coming!

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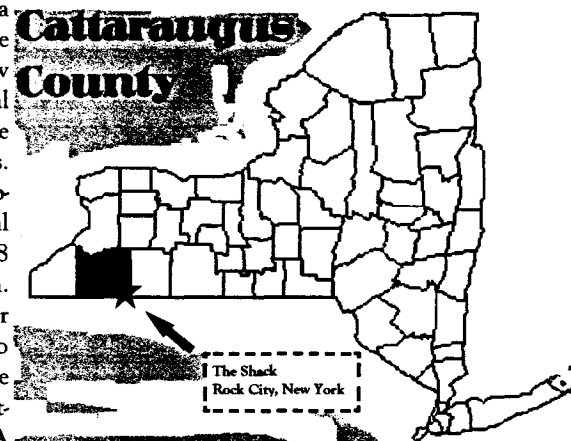
Attend the 1998 WTFDA Convention in the hills of south-western New York State at Rock City....



Ho-Sta-Geh Road is only a short 7 1/2 miles from exit 26 of the "Southern Tier Expressway" (route 17) on Hartzfelt Mountain. Dx central is a rustic cabin on three wooded and quiet acres on the rim of the Allegheny Mountains. From a

height of 2350 feet above sea level and with few high powered local stations; dx'ing can be quite interesting at times.

Lucia's Motel and Supper Club is the official motel for the '98 WTFDA Convention. Call early to reserve your room; space is limited to only nine (9) units. Be sure to say that your attending the WTFDA CONVENTION, July 31st, August 1st thru 2nd.



Area motels are:

**Lucia's Motel & Supper Club	9 units	rates starting at \$37/night	1-716-372-0039
De Soto (Best Western)	76 units	rates starting at \$40/night	1-800-325-0043
The Castle Inn	164 units	rates starting at \$55/night	1-800-422-7853
The Old Library Inn (B&B)	8 rooms	rates starting at \$65/night	1-716-373-9804

All rooms are based on single occupancy; add 8% NYS tax.

**The official motel of the '98 convention.

Convention registration fee, \$25.00 - - goes toward Friday evenings pizza & wings, Saturdays Banquet and snacks/drinks. Send \$1.00 for an information packet (deductible if you register) to Dave Nieman - - 12284 Nice Road - - Akron, NY 14001-9408. Packet includes convention schedule, site maps, 'Greater Olean Area Events & Activities' and 'Shop The Olean Area' guides.

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