

SHORTWAVE BULLETIN

Nummer: 1457, 22 april 2001. Deadline nästa nr: 4/5 2001 (fax & E-mail 6/5 kl. 0900 SNT)

Så är man åter tillbaka i verkligheten med alla benen i behåll efter skidåkning i Hemsedal. Åkningen nedför pisterna låg faktiskt en bit över gränsen för min förmåga i jakten på dottern som för var dag försvann fortare och fortare i fjärran ... Fy tusan för att bli gammal

Till detta nummer hälsar vi en ny medlem välkommen – Alf Årdal från Norge. Läs mer i detta nummer om hans DX-bana och antennexperiment. SWB behöver förnyas någon gång då och då, annars går vi långsamt under.

Vi skall även vara glada att vi kan presentera BM:s bandscan i nästan varje nummer. BM har ännu en gång lyckats gräva fram ett par nya LA-stationer på kortvägen. Följ därför hans uppmaning om hjälp med identifikationen av dessa små pärlor.

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SWB-info

SWB online på HCDX: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb>
SWB old archive: <http://www.algonet.se/~ahk/swbhome.html>
SWB hot stuff: <http://homepage.sverige.net/~a-0910/>

Komplettering av medlemslistan: Några stycken saknas ännu i vår medlemspresentation. Skriv några rader där åtminstone detta ingår: Yrke, DX-start, Verifierade länder/stationer, Mottagare, Antenner, Ev. andra hjälpmedel, Ev. annat avlyssningsställe, Favoritområde, Övriga hobbies, samt annat av intresse. Sammanställningen finns på: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb/member.htm>

Konventdags: 5-6 maj i Kanebergsstugan utanför Halmstad! Anmäl er snarast till Leif Blomqvist!! Vore väl kul om många ställer upp!

QSL, kommentarer, mm.

Det är inte ofta vi kan hälsa en ny medlem välkommen, han presenterar sig så här:

Alf Årdal: Her er en liten presentasjon av meg: Yrke: Er no uføretrygdet og 57 år.. Har tidlegere jobbet i utenriksfarten til sjøs, og senere i skipsindustrien, og litt innen lokalradio i distriktet. Startet "offisielt" min dxing i 1973, men var ganske tidlig interessert i radiolytting, 1963 var vel mine første opptak av radio stasjoner. Har ikke den helt store innen verif. land og stasjoner, men ca. 220 stasjoner og 95 land... men har sikkert flere. Mine første stasjoner ble dxet på en Grundig Satelitt 6001, som jeg har fortsatt:-). Mottakere som jeg bruker no er en AOR 7030 + med alle filter inne, en NRD 525, 2 st. Icom R71E (en modifisert med PLAM og bedre filter), Kenwood R-1000 og en Sony ICF 2001, samt en rør-radio av typen Marconi Atalanta NS702. Antennene som jeg har og bruker: K9AY (Wellbrook units), 40-45 m L-antenna, 4 st. Beverages: 2 st. 285 m i 290 graders retning terminert til jord, 1 st. liggende på marken uten jord 320 m i 300 graders retning terminert til jord, 340 m i 320 graders retning terminert til jord. Mitt spesial område er Nord Amerika og LA på MW, men også de tropiske band er meget interessante! Ellers liker jeg og eksperimenterer med nye antenner og hva man kan få ut av dem!!

Andre hobbies: Slektsforskning, country musikk....ja...(Tore Larsson....ikke bare du :-).) ja...faktisk litt fotografering er moro, når jeg finner motiv.... Ellers så håper jeg og kunne lære litt spansk eller portugisisk....jeg kan omtrent ingenting av de to språkene, så det blir vel vanskelig :(Min mest aktive periode har vært etter at jeg ble uføretrygdet, 1998 til no har vært mine beste år. Håper at jeg kan få bidra med noen tips til SWB....men mitt QTH er ikke spesielt god for LA eller NA....men jeg håper!! Min hjemmeside kan besøkes på: <http://home.online.no/~alfardal>. Men....det er en stund siden den har blitt oppdatert...jeg er ikke spesielt god i hjemmesider..... Skulle noen ha lyst på og besøke meg, så er du eller dere hjertelig velkommen!

Ja...det var litt om meg...Thomas, kanskje jeg kommer tilbake med mere stoff om meg en annen gang. Håper at artikkelen om K9AY antennen kan brukes! Skriver du den om til svensk? Vi hører! (Alf, du är hjärtligt välkommen till SWB-gänget – vi behöver verkligen ytterligare input av olika slag till vår hobby – annars dör den så sakteliga ut. Så bara skicka över tips och andra bidrag! /red)

Stig Adolfsson har fått ny e-mailadress i samband med att Arbetarskyddsstyrelsen bytt namn och nu heter Arbetsmiljöverket: stig.adolfsson@av.se

Tore B. Vik: QSL: **R. Verdad** med vanlig oppsett og **R. Bambamarca** etter f/u på 4419 med brev og **R. Cultural Amauta** 4855 med e.post og kopi som brev.

Christer Brunström: piraten **Radio Wonderful** 6310 sände CD'n Die Top 20 des Jahres 2000. På omslagets insida fanns fullständig QSL-text. Jag är väl inte någon piratfantast men svaret var trevligt. Etta på Radio Wonderfuls lista var Christian med "Es ist geil ein Arschloch zu sein".

Jan Edh: fortfarande har jag legat förfärande lågt med DX-ingen. Ännu ett kul QSL har dock letat sig hit efter litet jobb: **HCRI, Radio Interoceánica** 4840, email, dels från Edwin Riera S, Director och dels Olof Häggmyr, svensk som jobbar som ingenjör för att anlägga FM-repeaters för den här stationen. Ägare är Missionsförbundets systerorganisation i Quito. Station har tre FM-repeaters (två på 96,5 och en på 103,5) för det lokala området kring Santa Rosa (en liten stad med cirka 3 000 invånare), 4840 är avsett för att täcka Amazonas-området i första hand och Ecuador i andra. Antennen har en tämligen hög utgångsvinkel och Olof Häggmyr (som återvänder till jobbet på P4 i Värmland i sommar) tror att det är det som tillsammans med solfläckarna gjort att stationen hörts så bra här en tid. Kontakten med stationen kom via radioamatören Mats Gunnarsson, som var med och byggde stationen i mitten på 80-talet, men nu bor hemma i Sverige igen, och även med god hjälp av Henrik Klemetz.

Arnstein Bue: Jeg tror ikke jeg har sendt bidrag – i alle fall ikke QSL-bidrag – til SWB siden 1998. Jeg har i denne tiden også vært svært lite aktiv på kortbølgen – det har gått mest på mellombølge-DX, der jeg i perioden januar/97 til oktober/00 har vært ikke mindre enn 5 ganger i Kongsfjord. **Kortbølge-QSL siden sist:**

1998: Rádio Educadora, Bragança 4825 brev.

1999: CE2155 Voz Cristiana 21550 kort fra Miami, kort og schedule fra Santiago, **AIR Port Blair** 4760 kort fra Delhi, **Radio Comas** 3250.7 brev, visittkort.

2000: YVNV Radio Nacional de Venezuela 9540 folder (via Winter Monges), **AFRTS Diego Garcia** 12579 email, **Radio Mosoj Chaski** 3310 brev, brosjyre.

2001: Kyrgyz Radio, Bishkek 4010 to brev, fem IRC! v/s Eraaly Aylchiev, director, **RRI Palangka Raya** 3324.9 brev v/s Dr.S. Parlin Tobing, Station Manager, **RRI Sorong** 4874.5 brev v/s Umar Solle, Station Manager.

Hyggelig å se at det kommer interessante QSL til SWB-medlemmene igjen, etter at det en periode ble rapportert mest om forholdsvis lite spennende AFRTS-QSL ...

For 4 uker siden var jeg på Smøla og DX'et sammen med Rolf Torvik, og jeg fikk til sammen en håndfull nye rapporter. Email: arnstein_bue@yahoo.com. (Verkligen kul att se din signatur igen i bullen, keep on! /red)

Lars Skoglund: skickar via vykort följande. QSL från **Radio Moldova International** 7520 brev, kort, schema och påskkort. Utlandsprogrammet sänds numera bara på internet.

Rolf Wikström: När detta skrives så är det fortfarande runt 0 grader ute och stora dimbankar svävar över de plöjda åkrarna i Spannarboda City. Våren har väldigt svårt att komma igång i år. Jag skall i alla fall börja med att montera upp min K9AY-antenn denna helg. Få se vad det ger i förhållande till de trådar som redan finns. Jag är i grunden skeptisk till denna antenn, det är bara att hoppas på att jag har grundligt fel i min uppfattning ! QSL: **Radio Verdad** 4052,5 QSL-kort, pappersstandar m.m., **Radio Oito de Setembro** 2490 e-mail samt **Radio Interoceánica** 4840 efter 1 månad. Dessutom **Instituto Oceanográfico** 3810 med e-mail. Den sistnämnda brukar jag ha som cx-indikator på MV. När den hörs på 1510 så brukar det alltid vara intressanta förhållanden på mellanvågen. Ha en Trevlig Helg! (Återkom gärna med en liten redogörelse om dina erfarenheter när du testat av K9AY-antennen – det är många som är väldigt intresserade! /red)

Bengt Dalhammar: Tyvärr inte några bidrag den här gången heller. Jag är för närvarande upptagen med att avverka ett antal deklarasjoner. Det blir då inte någon tid över åt radioverksamheten, cx verkar heller inte ha varit över sig på sistone. Kommer till konventet tillsammans med Lars Skoglund och Rolf Åhman som det ser ut i dag. Vet ej om det finns någon ytterligare deltagare från Sthlm som ev. vill åka med.

LOGGEN - ALL TIMES ARE UTC

3250	14.4	0330	R.Luz y Vida med katolsk påskemesse S2 -TBV
3280	14.4	0250	LV de Napo rlg px s/off 0259 S2 TBV
3300	13.4	0415	R.Cultura kunne skimtes med eng.px S1-2 TBV
4832	13.4	0550	R.Litoral har nå engesk i 3 timer frem til s/off omkring 0400 - noen ganger meget god styrke på en fri frekvens TBV
4832	17.4	0305	Radio Litoral , La Ceiba med religiøse program på engelska fram till 0358. Uppger ulike adresser i slutannonseringen på engelska men jag fick inte alla detaljer. Kanskje klarnar allt under de kommende dagarna. 2 CB
4832	21.4	0100	Radio Litoral har gått ofta den senaste veckan och hörts ända fram mot 04-tiden. Utökad sändningstid alltså. ID dock först detta datum. QSA 2-3. WIK
4840	15.3	0400	Radio Interoceánica med blandad mx. Håller med BEFF om att de IDar väldigt slafsigt. Därför har jag inte vågat tipsa dem tidigare. Troligen den som hördes även imorse 21/4. QSA 3. WIK
4840	13.4	0410	R.Interoceanica er nå en vanlig stasjon S2-3 TBV
4875	20.4	0402	Rádio Difusora Roraima med ID som inleddes med ordet "Identificação" passende nog. Sedan kom en annonsering där man meddelade att sändningarna på 4875 strax skulle upphöra varefter vi rekommenderades att fortsätta lyssna på 590 kHz. 3 CB
4930.06	20.4	0302	Radio Barahona Internacional hade en annonsering mitt i den romantiska musiken. Dåligt ljud. 2-3 CB
4939.42	20.4	0359	Radio Amazonas Internacional avslutade dagens sändningar med nationalhymnen. 2-3 CB
4975	24.3	2258	UID ZY med hel-ID, men for mye støy ... ZYG8, 3. ABU
5054	14.4	0310	TIFC - dominerer frekvensen S2 TBV
6105	23.3	2302	R Cultura Filadélfia med super hörbarhet, 4. ABU
6309.79	20.4	0405	Unión, la radio med religiöst en stund. Extremt dåligt ljud. 2 CB
15475.58	20.4	2010	Radio Nacional Arcángel San Gabriel är åter igång. Noterad med argentinsk musik. 2 CB
21680	19.4	0600	Christian Voice , Darwin med musik och korta religiøse innslag. 3 CB



BM i Ecuador – bandscan KV-21, 20/4 2001

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Rx: JRC-535, Loewe HF-150, Sangean ATS-808 Antenn: 15 m longwire + Magnetic Longwire Balun

2839.93(H?) OID LA. April 2001 - 1000 UTC. Den här stationen, som har rapporterats av Rafael Rodriguez, är också hörbar här i Quito med ibland hyfsad styrka, speciellt på mornarna. Ständigt religiösa program, oftast katolska mässor. IDar aldrig, har inte hört ortsnamn eller land nämnas vid något tillfälle.

4662.70 OID LA. 19 april 2001 - 1025 UTC. Religiöst program där man uppgav telefonnummer 71 19 97. Har ingen aning om från vilket land. Bra signal men något distat ljud.

4832.05 x4830.07 Radio Litoral, La Ceiba(Honduras). April 2001 - 1110 UTC. Trodde först att det var en reaktiverad Radio Reloj i San José. Táchira på 4830 är fortfarande off air. Varierar några 100-delar upp/ner i frekvens.

5175.49 Ny peruan! L.P.C. La Radio. Querillos(?), (dpto San Martín?) (Peru). 20 april 2001 - 1115 UTC. Hade sin premiärsändning detta datum fredag morgon, startade omkring 1100 UTC med härlig styrka men tyvärr lämnade DJens mikrofon ett något distat och dovt ljud. Är i tidsnöd då jag senare idag fredag återigen sticker iväg till Riobamba - så jag hinner precis få iväg denna info till SWB via mitt internet-café här på avda de la Prensa. Att stationen sänder från Querillos är jag inte 100% säker på. DJen uppger följande: "...de L.P.C. La Radio que esá transmitiendo desde Girón y Bilgrau, Manzana 18 lote 11"(adress i Querillos??) samt "...transmisión de prueba de esta (ciudad de??) Querillos....". I december 2000 loggade jag på 5175.85 Radio Máster i Moyobamba. dpto San Martín. L.P.C. kanske bara har övertagit rättigheten till frekvensen. L.P.C. går med klart bättre signal än vad Radio Máster gjorde tidigare. DJen hälsade till personer bl.a. i Querillos, Alto Querillos, Bagua Grande, Naranjos och Tarapoto. Annonserar frekvensen 5175 kHz.

6524.07 Ny peruan!. Med okänt namn och som möjligen sänder från en stad vars namn fonetiskt låter som "Santa Uro". Av DJens snack att döma borde denna ort ligga i Utcubamba, Amazonas. Uppfattar inget direkt ID, bara några enstaka fraser som t.ex.: "J.J." och "Emisora total Cién-Uno". Halvdålig signal där musiken går fram hyfsat bra men DJens mikrofon är svagt modulerad och dessutom besvärande QRM från närliggande kanaler: **Aramango-6519.78** och **Huancabamba-6536.00**. Upprepar ständigt att det är fråga om testsändningar, "Estamos en calidad de prueba". Programmet består av modern disco/pop, både engelskt och spanskt samt en del cumbia, salsa och liknande. Också väldigt mycket politisk "kontrakterad" reklam för "Perú posible". Har tre kvällar i rad stängt 0100 UTC och är mycket frekvensstabil. Uppger 1 kW sändareffekt. Det som gör mig lite "nervös" när det gäller att fastställa varifrån stationen sänder är att det i en av dom politiska kampsångerna omnämndes följande orter: Santa Cruz, Cajabamba, San Marcos, Celendin samt ytterligare några som jag inte uppfattar. Samtliga dessa ligger i "dpto Cajamarca"!

Det känns som om tiden ibland inte räcker till men hoppas att mina vänner i SWB kan ha glädje av att försöka fixa fram mer information om dom två nya peruanerna på 5175.49 och 6524.07 kHz. Har i alla fall in i det sista kämpat hårt med bandmangling av dessa två. Är ju också mycket förtjust i att lyssna på mellanvåg, mest blir det splittfrekvensstationer som publiceras i "mv-eko"(arctic radio club).

Till slut har det då hänt, jag har för första gången i mitt liv blivit rånad. Fast egentligen var det inte så farligt - "rånaren" var snäll och stack mjukt och försiktigt ner handen i min byxficka och fiskade upp plånboken med 11 dollar. Detta hände under resa i en "Trole", mycket populära, snabba eldrivna bussar där man oftast blir utan sittplats och stående, packad som i en sardinkonservburk, med båda händerna upptagna - det gäller att hålla sig ordentligt fast då accelerationen i dessa eldrivna bussar är enorm! Upplagt för ficktjuvar m.a.o..... 73 från BM i Quito.



73 från i Quito!

Stationsnyheter

BOLIVIA

4552.5 Radio Difusora Trópico, Trinidad. 14-Apr 0156. I just got the end of an evening mass, and a fine id before c/d at 0200. Fair signal. [Johan Berglund, Trollhättan via HCDX]

CHINA

got an interesting QSL today: **Gannan PBS, 5970 kHz,** Chinese verification-stencil, chinese sked in 99 days. No rp enclosed. Address: Gannan People's Broadcasting Station, 49 Renmin Xije, Hezuo Zhen, Xiahe, Gian Su 74700, China. [Martin Elbe via HCDX]

GUYANA.

3291.42, GBC, April 18 at 0820. Back on 90 meters this week after an absence from this band, for several months. First noted them on the 16th. Usual format of religious programs, subcontinental mx, birthday announcements and so forth. This morning fair strength, but rapid fading (Dave Hodgson, TN, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

JAPAN.

5000.0/8000.0/10000.0, JJY, 0226-0300* Mar 31, JJY ceased its shortwave transmission w/the time pulse at 3 hours 0 minute 0 second UT, then carrier off (Takeshi SEJIMO, Radio Nuevo Mundo Editor, April 9, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

I have heard that the date has been shifted to April 12th or so, but when checked frequently last weekend on 8 MHz, not a peep to be heard (Walt Salmaniw, Victoria, BC, April 10, hard-core-dx via DXLD)

PERÚ.

Re Malm's 5632.94, R. Cajabamba: Cajabamba is the name of a province in the southeastern corner of Cajamarca department. The capital of the province is also named Cajabamba. The town may not be marked on many maps. The Peruvian gazetteer gives the

coordinates as 7 37 south & 78 02 west. Elevation is 3654 meters, so it is well up in the Andes (Don Moore, IA, Cumbre DX April 12 via DXLD)

TANNU TUVA.

RUSSIA GTRK "Tuva" from Kyzyl (South of Central Siberia) observed on SW 6100 from Apr 6. As usual for such regional stns there is R Rossii relay during the day. I heard regional program at 2210-2300 and 2310-2400 (first 10 mins are R Rossii nx). Being langs are Russian and Vernacular (similar to Mongolian). But schedule is irregular and in some days tx switches on at 2300 or even much later. Interference is from Xinjiang in Chinese from 0000 and 1100. I'm trying to find stn's addr but it's not easy (Vladimir Kovalenko, Tomsk, Russia, Apr 12, BC-DX via DXLD)

SOUTH AMERICA

2480 0000-0140 R. Sonorama, Riobamba, Ecuador (2x1240 Harmonic), **3021 0300 R. Monumental**, Quito, Ecuador (2 x 1150 harmonic). **3172 0000-0330 R. Municipal**. Panao, Peru. **3200 0000-0205off Ondas de Huma** (¿), Ecuador, (2 X 1600 Harmonic) "La Radio del Pueblo". **3355 0000-0100s/off R. 6 De Agosto**, QTH???, Brasil. **4389v 0000-0300 R. Imperio**, Peru (Always hrd with La Voz de la salvacion de la Iglesia Pentecostal Acosecha de Chiclayo). **5150 0220 HCJB** spur. **5470 0000- R. San Nicolas**, Rodriguez de Mendoza, Peru. "San Nicolas, 96.7 fm, en simultanea con los 5470 kilociclos conda corta banda de 60 metros (sic) transmitiendo desde Rodriguez de Mendoza para todo el Peru" [Log from Renato Bruni in Macas, Ecuador. Sangean 909, 15 m. wire (Courtesy: Faiallo DX) via HCDX (the log is shortened, can be read on HCDX in full version)]

UNIDENTIFIED.

5522 USB LA station, April 18 1037-1110; Andean type popular mx from the time of tune in till 1045. Three minutes of dead air. Announcements in SS @ 1048-1100. I thought I heard the word "Quito", but not sure. Three more minutes of dead air with chirping sound. More announcements @ 1103, till fade out around 1110. Signal was weak, and exactly on 5522.00 USB. Direct gray line between The Andes and TN, USA during time of reception. Don't know if this is a pirate operator, someone playing around with a transceiver, or a legitimate station. Interesting none the less (David Hodgson, Nashville, DX LISTENING DIGEST) Apr 18)

Övriga radionyheter

LCD-THERMOMETERS

I also had the same problem with a LCD thermometer as Johan Berglund. When I tried to listen at ham's on the 160m band I had two S9+ short buzzes every 10th sec. But it was only on my Sangean 909 with an indoor active antenna (telescope whip) and not on my Icom R75 with 100m wire. So after some days (and nights) it was a very irritating qrm. So after I had gone through the whole house in my hunt for the local qrm I tried at the last resort to remove the batteries from my thermometer and ... it disappeared!

I figured out that it was a very local qrm since the thermometer is located 50 cm from the Sangean's antenna and 1.5 m from the start of my 100m wire and on the wire there was no qrm from the thermometer. It's temp sensor is located where the wire starts so it is only the displayhousing causing the problem. [Björn Danielsson, Dals Långed, Sweden via HCDX]

"Sloper Antenna Tests"

There has been a lot of anecdotal reportage over the years about the value of "sloper" antennas, particularly with regards to directivity and nulling of "pest" stations from given bearings opposite to the horizontal direction one looks from the high end of the sloper to its low end. This article seeks to look into the performance of these antennas in more detail than afforded by previous accounts in the DX press. A set-up I have used at several locations is illustrated at the end of this article.

The HTML version of this article is available at <http://members.aol.com/DXerCapeCod/sloper.htm>. It includes a diagram of the antenna system. Full bandscan data for these tests may be obtained via the links below: HTML file: "<http://members.aol.com/DXerCapeCod/bscan-billerica.htm>" Zipped Microsoft Excel file: "<http://members.aol.com/DXerCapeCod/bscan-billerica.zip>"

[Mark Connelly - WA1ION - 16 APR 2001 via HCDX]

IC-R75 sync detector (rec.radio.shortwave)

Has ICOM ever admitted that the sync detector of IC-R75 is useless or have they denied it? [Timo Nieminen, tniemine@lut.fi]

I had occasion to play with an IC-R75 at an ICOM display at a hamfest, just prior to it's release. I got to talking with the ICOM rep who told me, when I pointed out that the sync detector was somewhat less than useful compared to Drake's or Lowe's, he said little.

About 6 months later, I ran into the same ICOM rep again and after playing with the R-75 again, we chatted about the future of the receiver in light of some of the less than enthusiastic reviews that had already hit the radio press.

He told me that he could not officially comment, but that he could say that the reviews and the Newsgroup comments about R-75 and Drake products had gotten their attention at the top of ICOM. And that there may be a revision forthcoming of the sync detector as well as, at the time, announcements of future features of the receiver which would occupy much of the huge empty space inside the cabinet. Strictly unofficial comments.

To date, no revision has been announced, and no announcements of new features have been made. ICOM is officially quiet about the sync detector of R-75, though their reps will openly discuss it. As I was then, I'm still not holding my breath.

[Peter Maus, PeterMaus@worldnet.att.net]

I've had my R75 back from Kiwa Electronics for about a week and a half now, but have had only little time to play with it.

Nonetheless, I've noticed distinct improvements. Here is my initial impressions: The AGC fix and perhaps to some extent, the audio mod, really removes the distortion that, previously, was particularly noticeable in the AM mode. Now the audio is *extremely* clear and isn't easily affected by fading signals as it was before the mod. This modification is so good that the sync mod then becomes a lot less important. (I'm unsure as to how much is attributable to the AGC mod and how much is attributable to the audio mod.) I tried feeding the audio into an Optimus PRO-X44AV speaker. The audio was absolutely fabulous (although only average dynamic range). The sound was full and had a good bass. Before the mods, with the external speaker connected, the AM distortion was so noticeable as to make listening

with an external speaker unpleasant. Now, it is very pleasant.

The sync detector now works, ie. it maintains lock. It whistles when gaining lock and whistles when it loses lock. While testing it on a *very weak* station, it kept whistling/howling (before the mod, it seemed to make no attempt to gain lock). With the dramatic improvement to the straight AM, it's now somewhat more difficult to find signals (with rapid fades) that would easily demonstrate the difference between the sync AM and straight AM. Nonetheless, in the sync AM mode, audio and especially music appeared to suffer less from fading.

The addition of the 3.8 kHz filter is just what the doctor ordered. This is a perfect width for narrow AM/S-AM. I tried it on Radio Havana, which had one sideband being interfered with. With sync AM, the 3.8 kHz filter and the inner PBT control turned to one side, the signal came in clear and sounded beautiful. I had been considering buying another 3.3 kHz filter (many months ago, I had taken the one I had out of the R75 and put into the AR7030+) but with the 3.8 kHz filter installed by Kiwa, I have since changed my mind. Also, the NR now seems to work better. On this point, I'm not really sure if this is just subjective on my part or not. Before the mods, the NR seemed to reduce signal and noise in equal proportions, rendering it rather useless. Now it doesn't seem to attenuate the signal as much (or it seems to reduce the noise more) as it did before -- actually making it useful. These are *my* impressions. Your mileage may vary.

[Cheers, Michael Moore, m.moore@utoronto.ca]

For the "mother lode" of information on the r75, fire up your browser and enter the url: <http://www.yahoo.com/group/icomr75>. You have to join the group to look at the files or to have current messages e-mailed to you, but anybody can look at the archives of past messages.

The synchronous-detector bit went around on this group. Icom USA officially maintains that the synchronous-AM detector is working exactly as they intended. But you will also find on here the modification to cause the receiver's sync detector to work much better, and Icom's ambivalent response that they are not against people doing the mod.

This mod requires the addition of two caps & one resistor, but it also requires the "lifting" of one lead of a surface-mounted chip. This is a high-skill operation. If you don't want to do it yourself, KIWA will do it for you for a price. They can also improve the audio quality & they offer some interesting non-factory filtering options; consult their web page for details & prices.

My private opinion is that Icom is "up against the law"; if they admit that the receiver doesn't really do what their advertising says it will do, they could be compelled to recall & upgrade all R-75s at their expense. They can't afford that. [wieland@copland.udel.edu] (Robert F Wieland)

I haven't noticed anybody else picking up on this yet, but I got an email from Grove today that included the tidbit that an updated 7600 should be coming in sometime in April. Now, I've never had a 7600 but I know many of you prefer them, so I'll just add that this version will have 100 memories--Grove will be selling for it for around \$175. Check out the preliminary info at:

<http://www.grove-ent.com/RCV1.html> ["Donald Reeve" don236@prodigy.net]

<http://www.universal-radio.com> has picture; listed under "Portable SW Receivers". [Rod Williams, Rossville, Georgia, USA]

T2FD antenna

I built a 45-ft one whose lower end is attached to the edge of my roof, about 20 ft up, and it works well, even though I've never gotten around to replacing the 4-to-1 balun with a hand-wound 9-to-1 as I intended when selecting a 450 ohm termination load. Perhaps its only because of my 2-to-1 mismatch between 50 ohm feedline and 112 ohms, but my antenna tuner does make some difference with it. (I have a Barker & Williamson TFD in an inverted-V configuration, and it also shows some benefit from the tuner, though not as much.) I've found that the typically recommended 30-degree tilt does seem to give the minimum amount of polarization fading. In other words, keep the higher end higher than the lower end by an amount (22-to-23 ft, in my case) equal to half the length of the antenna.

I think you'll find that the lower end will need to be 1/4-to-1/2 an antenna-length above good ground (as opposed to roof, or dry soil.) This configuration is pretty much omni-directional, so orientation in azimuth can be based on whatever makes hanging it easiest.

If I recall correctly, I believe that if you have to keep the low end close to ground it will tend to point like a sloper (i.e. along its length) and favor vertical polarization over horizontal. I presume you know that the thing will work quite well over a range of frequencies from about 3/4 of the "tuned" frequency to about 4 times the "tuned" frequency, where the "tuned" frequency is that for which the length of the antenna is 1/3 wavelength (and the width of the antenna is 1% of that wavelength). Performance really drops off at frequencies with wavelengths greater than 4 times the antenna length. For mine, with its 40 meter "tuned wavelength," that means 5-to-30 MHz. They are fun to build, and do work quite well.

I used soft PVC pipe for the spreaders, with the wire fed through the end ones, and was very glad I did when I saw it loaded with over 6 inches of slush/ice without breaking. It just sprung right back when the stuff melted and the end-spreaders unbent. I used one length of wire for the loop and a half-antenna-length of feedlines (3 times length-plus-width), which I made into 450 ohm ladder line at 90 degrees to the antenna (using 450/600 ohm plastic spreaders from Ham Radio Outlet). Have fun.

[Albert P. BELLE ISLE, Cerberus Systems, Inc. via rec.radio.shortwave]

Phased array

A short sound clip in Central Ohio, listening for a couple of seconds to a mix on 1270 of mostly WUCO Marysville and WILE Cambridge and if you listen carefully a woman on WXYT Detroit under it all. At 2 seconds it switches from a single antenna to a phased array that nulls WILE and WUCO both, leaving only WXYT. <http://rhardin.home.mindspring.com/temp.ra> (11k) There's a little AGC lag. It happens to be a 6-element phased array, but it's being steered here as a 3-element phased array (the phase settings on other elements being fixed because they're set to null on other stations). It's a fuss to null two stations with 3 antennas; there's a formal procedure for 4 antennas that makes it fairly easy.

[Ron Hardin rhardin@mindspring.com via rec.radio.shortwave]

To be ...or not to be!!

These words have probably inspired many people, and in many situations ... also my youngest daughter have these words on a big picture, hanging on the door of her room

And with those words in my mind to be able to make things better, I did several tests/comparisons on my K9AY antenna. Its over one year since I bought my 4 loop version from Wellbrook Communications in UK, which has 2 head units and the control box.

These tests are simple and have been made with two goals in my mind, to increase the gain from the wanted stations, and to be able to null (hopefully) most of the unwanted stations! I have to admit the first goal has occupied my thoughts most of the time, but nulling performance has the same importance as getting stronger signals.

You do want to hear stations, which is rather difficult or impossibleyes ...sure! Well, then it's just as important to null out the stations that's blocking the wanted signals!! Some thoughts about nulling and succeeding on this will be looked into in another occasion, but I will give a few comments if possible, later in this article.

The installation of the antenna was done in the backyard, between a pine tree and an aluminium pole on the top of house roof, and its centre is about 15 meters or so from the house. The loops have been the well-discussed delta shape, but with my antenna more "squashed", down to a height of appr. 5-6 meters, and about 1 m above ground, but still a 25 m loop. The reason why I have lowered the antenna is mainly heavy wind forces under the winter.

On March 21st, I added the two loops, North-South and East-West with 19 meters of more wire, so these loops are now 44 m, while the two other loops, NE-SW and NW-SE have the same lengths. Later these will be added on with the same length but more comparisons/tests against the "new" loops will be done. Groundings have been done as below and should be read as Test 1-2 etc.:

Test 1: First tests were done with one copper pipe, connected to the ground terminals of the head units.

Test 2: Further tests were done with 3 copper pipes, as grounding.

Test 3: 10m radials laid under each loop, connected with a copper pipe at the far end of the radial, holes/pipes filled with sepiolitt. These have then been well-watered!

Test 4: North-South and East-West loops added more wire.

The sepiolitt is kitty sand, which takes up 90% of moisture in the material. A final test with adding a copper wire in a 10 m circle to each copper pipe/radial, will probably be done to see if nulling can be enhanced even a little more.

Following stations have been used in the tests:

162 khz	France	234 khz	Luxembourg	810 khz	BBC R.Scotland
189 khz	Iceland	252 khz	Ireland	909 khz	BBC UK
198 khz	BBC UK	261 khz	Russia	1314 khz	R.Norway/NRK
207 khz	Iceland	531 khz	Faroe Islands	+ monitoring of the SW bands.	
225 khz	Poland	693 khz	BBC UK		

I have used my AOR 7030+ with 10 dB pre-amp enabled, also the same with the amp on the control box enabled. None unwanted signals have been detected on MW, but a few in higher frequencies in the shortwave band. I haven't done any serious comparisons with my beverages, since all of my beverages are pointing towards North and South America, and my K9AY installation site lays below the beverages, in ground levels. But, yes ... a few comparisons have been done between these 2 types, I have enabled 2 of my beverages together with my antenna box, one pointing in the 285 degree direction, the other in the 320 degree direction.

I should also tell that ground level slops a lot, about 2 meters of height difference on a 20-25 meter distance, so its impossible to make a "flat" installation close or near the house, also 40-45 meter from the house (backyard), the terrains is very steep! So a more "comfortable" place for the antenna would be on the top of this small ridge, about 120 to 250 meter away would be perfect.

The tests have been done about 90% in the daytime, mainly because the LW/MW-bands are not that crowdy. All readings have been done at 14:00 UTC or close up to this time slot. Signal detection and measurement is difficult, so levels are shown in S-units as accurate as possible, but at least you'll get a idea how good or poor the signal is!

Station	Test 1	Test 2	Test 3	Test 4
162 khz	0.5	0.5-1	5	8-9+
189 khz	2-3	2-3	4	7.5
198 khz	6	7.5-8	8	S9+10
207 khz	3.5-4	5-6	7	S9.5+10
225 khz	0	2	4.5	8
234 khz	0	0	0.5	7-8
252 khz	1	5.5-6	6-6.5	8.5-9+
261 khz	0	-	-	8-8.5
531 khz	9.5+	9+	9+	S9+25
693 khz	7	7+	7.5	9+
810 khz	6.5	7	8	9.5
909 khz	3	-	-	5-6.5
1314 khz	9-9.5	9	9	9.5

The last test seems to have made the best results, tests 1-3 has more noise on the tropical band, while test 4 has raised the signal a little here, with some reduced noise as well. All tests show a real nice signal on the entire shortwave. Regarding nulling results, most results seem to be based on groundwaves but some have really puzzled me a lot, the signals from Kuwait – India – Thailand and China must been groundwaves too, and not skywaves which is usual. Does anybody have any comments on this?

Regarding my rather badly situated QTH for North and South America, SA seems to come in about equal on both the beverages and the K9AY, also one example was on 1520 khz, there WWKB Buffalo was audible, nothing else, switching to another loop made Ecos del Palmar from Colombia in the clear, while WWKB was gone.....my best nulling on a TA example!

A few comments from others on skywave and groundwave, how they affect dxing and in which way, and can we really say ... that's skywave and that's groundwave!/? I hope my tests have some value for K9AY owners or coming ones

/Alf Årdal