

SHORTWAVE BULLETIN

Nummer: 1532 7 mars 2004. Deadline nästa nr: 19/3 2004 (E-mail 21/3 kl. 0900 SNT)

Så är det återigen dags att ställa samman SWB igen.

Tyvärr verkar aktiviteten på KV vara ganska låg för tillfället. Det är bara några få som hört av sig med bidrag.

Däremot verkar MV kunna ge ett och ett annat.

Läs bl a vad BV på Fyn har gjort för att plocka ännu fler nya MV-stationer och det med antenner som passar på begränsade ytor!

Till detta nummer kom också helt oväntat en artikel från Bob Rydzewski dimpandes ner i brevlådan med en intressant artikel om hans upplevelser av NRD525 och Drake R8B.

I slutet av kommande vecka är några dagars skidåkning i Sälen inplanerade. Som det ser ut så finns det goda chanser att det blir bra väder och därmed också fin skidåkning.

Från LB och IE kommer inbjudan till konventet. Planera redan nu in helgen 8-9 maj. Det är alltid trevligt att träffas och få snacka av sig lite.

Glöm ej bort bidragen till nästa nummer!!

Keep on

Redaktion:

Thomas Nilsson
Mardalsv. 372
262 93 Ängelholm
Tel: 0431-27054

E-mail:

thomas.nilsson@sverige.net
thomas@mafa.se

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-0901/> (på denna sajt ligger alltid senaste SWB).

SWB member information: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb/member.htm>

Jubileumstidskriften: <http://homepage.sverige.net/~a-0901/> (html- + pdf-version).

QSL, kommentarer, mm.

Arnstein Bue: Det jeg har sett av HCDX Online Log hittil kan på absolutt ingen måte erstatte SWB for min del. SWB levert "online" er av en helt annen kvalitet og verdi. Men SWB har selv sagt noen års lenger fartstid enn HCDX Online Log, som sikkert kommer til å utvikles og for eller siden bli et bra supplement. Stasjonene ble hørt under Smøla-ekspedisjonen i februar 2004. **QSL** Bare ett kortbølge QSL siden sist (men heldigvis mange mellombølge-QSL): **Radio Ilucán 5678** email etter 3 måneder

Jan Edh: det är tydligen bara en liten stund på morgonen som det möjligen finns några intressanta signaler för tillfället. Själv tog jag konsekvenserna av det i helgen. Eftersom Rolf Larsson och Dan Andersson var på plats i Fredriksfors, och det var varmt och skönt, väntade jag till söndagsmorgonen 22/2 med att åka ut. Men redan strax efter halv fem (svensk tid) var alldeles för tidigt. Och sedan när det började gå något så hann man inte med... De konditioner som var låg ganska distinkt mot Västindien/CA, litet Venezuela/ Colombia och sydligaste USA. Ett problem var dock att europeiska signaler var väldigt starka hos oss den här morgonen och frekvenser som exempelvis (men de var många fler) 1420 och 1430 där det troget gått stationer i vinter var helt täckta av splatter. Dessutom har vi nå t skit, förmodligen i Delsbo samhälle några kilometer bort, i antennerikningen för framför allt östkustantennen, men också prärire- och ca-antennen påverkas, som ger mycket brus och det framför allt framåt morgonen när man slåss mot svaga signaler. Men jag är nöjd ändå, för äntligen fastnade Radio VEA 1570.

29/2: Eftersom hoppet inte överger oss så lätt, så åkte jag ut till Fredriksfors igen på lördagskvällen den 28/2. Och inte oväntat visade det sig att i stort sett var det precis samma stationer som vanligt som gick, och att framför allt kortvågen envisas med att inte ge något ifrån sig. Kortvågens ljuspunkt var nu nya Radio Shabelle, medan det är fortsatt otroligt magert mot LA. Inte ens Pio XII går bra längre. På mellanvågen var det framför allt Puerto Rico tillsammans med Venezuela/Colombia som dominerade helt under en morgontimme. Ovanligt var att så mycket av detta gick på bandets lägre del. För NA:s del begränsades hörigheterna till några X-bandare och 1500 och 1510.

5/3: inga nya loggar men litet **QSL** kommer faktiskt: **Radio Shabele 6961**. Email, ville också ha telefonnummer för radiointervju... 3 dagar. **Radio Jornal à Critica, Manaus 5055**. Rek brev, tre kort från Manaus. V/s Rui Souto de Alencat, Diretor Executivo. 13 mån. **Radio Baré, Manaus 4895**. Email. V/s Sócrates Bomfim Neto, Diretor da programação. 9 mån.

7/3: En liten morgonrapport i sista stund efter natten i Fredriksfors. Det var en natt som inte bjöd mig (och Rolf Larsson) på några större överraskningar. Några enstaka östkust-NA och så massvis av Colombia/ Venezuela och även Puerto Rico på morgonkvisten. På kortvåg finns Voz del Upanos återkomst att glädja sig åt. Men sannerligen inte mycket annat. Väldigt magert med styrkorna mot Peru/Bolivia.

Bjarke Vestesen: Mine to nye EWE-antenner på bare 9+3+3 meter i henholdsvis vestlig og østlig retning fungerer ganske enestående. Mens UK høres fint på den vestvendte på 1053 kHz, er den fullstændigt undertrykt på den østvendte, hvor Rumænien høres. Jeg tror, det er første gang i min "DX-karriere" på over 25 år, at jeg har præsteret at opsætte en så fremragende antenne, som er så retningsbestemt. Selvom signalstyrken er svagere på EWE end på de øvrige antenner, er det i dag den vestvendte EWE, som bruges til at logge transatlantiske mellembølgestationer på. Og derfor har min egen aktivitet på kortbølge været yderst begrænset, fordi jeg har brugt tiden omkring solopgang til MB-stationer fra LA og NA.

Björn Fransson: Dags igen för några tips – med tonvikt på "några" och med tillägget "få"! 73 från Björn **QSL: Mustaqbal**, utbildningsprogrammet för somalier i Etiopien via Sydafrika-17565. E-mail, v/s: Abdoulkader Houssein. **Hmong Lao Radio** med säte i Saint Paul, MN-15260. Tackbrev + visitkort för min storståtliga donation av 1 USD till rörelsen United Lao Movement for Democracy, fast egentligen var det ett svarsporto. Brevet kostade 1.11 USD att skicka... och min syn på vad som är ett QSL får nog utvidgas ordentligt för att få det här till ett sådant. V/s: Nhia Yong Thao, president.

Hans Östnell: Det har inte hunnit bli så mycket lyssnande mellan varven (läs perioderna i Älvdalen). Vid de fåtaliga tillfällen jag kunnat lyssna, har dessutom konditionerna lyst med sin fullständiga frånvaro. Har dock haft möjlighet att läsa SWB emellanåt och där följt debatten rörande onlineloggar och diton i pappersformat. Då det redan har redogjorts för de flesta argument i denna fråga, avstår jag från att tillföra några nya. Stämningen tycks redan nu så pass spänd att jag inte vill yttra mig. Övergår istället till att redogöra för mina fåtaliga loggar.

LOGGEN - ALL TIMES ARE UTC

3250	7.2	-0351	HRPC R Luz y Vida , San Luís, har jeg aldri hørt tidligere gjennom mine 26 år som DX'er. Gledet! ABU
3340	22.2	0340	Radio Mi (Misiones) med predikan. QSA 2-3 men dovt ljud i talet och svåruppfattat. JE
3340	7.2	0357	HRMI R Misiones Internacionales , Comayagüela, ble morgnens andre Honduras-stasjon og gledet like mye. God styrke på signalet ABU
4052,45	7.2	0256	TGAV R Verdad satt endelig i garnet! Hørtes enda 0520 ABU
4605	6.3	2135	RRI Serui hyggelig. Däremot inte ett ljud av Wamena 4870 som varit så stark tidigare. QSA 2 JE
4650,3	28.2	2230	Radio Santa Ana har tydligen glidit upp något i frekvens. En av mycket få som gick läsbart. QSA 2 JE/RFK
4790	28.2	2240	RRI FakFak gick riktigt hyggelig i AM-läge, enda indones som gick acceptabelt. QSA 2-3 JE/RFK
4790	6.3	2130	RRI FakFak ovanligt bra. Egen paussignal den här tiden och annonsering. QSA 3 JE
4869,9	6.3	2305	Voz del Upano , Macas. Religiöst med "Sendero la vida" QSA 2 och väldigt ren och fin signal. På morgonen 7.3 otroligt bra med Radio Maria-program //3279,5 LVdNapó. Gick bättre än denna dominant! QSA 4 JE
4869,9	2.3	0545	Oändlig diskussion på spanska utan ett enda ID på en hel timme avslutades kl 0700 med det jag redan visste: La Voz del Upano . S 3-4. BEFF
4959,98	28.2	2315	OID med rytmisk musik av ett slag jag inte hört förut. Dessutom ett språk som för mig är helt obekant. Kanske Equadorianen? Inga ID:n uppfattades, dessvärre. Får mangla lite mer... Q2 HR
4960	28.2	2300	Radio Federacion (tent) med väldigt märklig (indian?)-musik. Sedan mer normal musik med panflöjt etc. Ovanligt stark, men tji annonsering. QSA 3-4. JE/RFK
4960	6.3	2300	Radio Federacion med anrop och en blandning av prat och njutbar musik. Ovanligt bra. QSA 3. JE
4965	28.2	2210	OID SS-talande i kamp med Christian Voice. Tentativt Radio Santa Monica. Tyvärr vann den religiösa över den profana denna gång, varför vidare lyssning på frekvensen tedde sig tämligen meningslös. HR
4974,8	22.2	0700	Ondas del Ortegaza . Religiöst efter annonseringar på heltimmen. Fram till 07 ett religiöst program på US-engelska! QSA 3 JE
5025	28.2	2355	Radio Rebelde , med annonseringar och klockpling. Q3 HR
5047	28.2	2130	Togo igång igen. Besvärad av en ton och dålig modulation fortfarande. QSA 2 JE/RFK
6010,20	29.2	0030	LV de tu Conciencia , pratade och pratade och pratade och... Q3 HR
6034,97	29.2	0020	LV de Guaviare , hyggelig med musik och annonseringar. Längre sedan sist. Q2-3 HR
6225	29.2	0950	Genhör med den gode gamle 80'er-pirat Britain Radio International med många IDs, reklamer for Offshore Echoes UK. S2 BV
6420,79	27.2	1455	V.o. Iranian Revolution på farsi eller kurdisk, s/on med symfonisk pausesignal och mindre end ét minut senere gik støjsendere i gang på frekvensen – og derfor umuligt at konstatere, om sproget var farsi eller kurdisk (det lyder nu også temmelig ens, fordi det begge er indoeuropæiske sprog og har samme sprogstamme). S2 BV
6961	28.2	2025	Radio Shabelle med "Hornmusik" och något slags långt nyhetssammandrag. Inte alls så illa trängd, även om det kom en stark ton på "LSB-sidan" ca 20.50. QSA 3 JE/RFK
6961	ofta	2015	Radio Shabele , Somalia hörs nästan varje kväll, men olika dåligt. Har bara hört ID en enda gång och då i form av en websideadress. Avslutar sändningen de sista minuterna med sånger ur Koranen och sedan ingen som helst avannonsering, utan c/d 2100. S 2-3 och en massa utility-QRM. Lär numera ligga på exakt 6960 kHz. BEFF.
9620,64	29.2	2130	SODRE , Montevideo. Äntligen med rapporterbar styrka! En fin pianokonsert avslutades med påföljande annonseringar i "mys-tempo". Därefter drog man av Ravel's "Bolero", minsann! Annonseringar med "harpa-signal" 21.55, men inga annonseringar på heltimmen. Istället en violinkonsert till 22.20. Får se om detta räcker till rapport. En drömstation sedan tidigt 80-tal för mig... Q2 HR
9668,18	26.2	0525	Rádio Nacional do Brasil var ordentligt "off frequency". Karnevalsprogram. 3 CB
11689,96	6.3	0915	Scandinavian Weekend Radio med finsk og engels, mange IDs, lytterrapport fra Mogadishu, Somalia! Dårlig modulation og lå lidt skævt på frekvensen. S2 BV
12085	29.2	1000	Voice of Mongolia med "Sunday Music Programme". 2-3 CB
13855	27.2	1155	AFRTS Keflavik er stadig aktiv her, og denne dag hørt med IDs og program fra NPR. Stærk modulation. S3 BV
15675	22.2	0400	Här skulle nya Voice of Liberty, clandestine till Eritrea sända , men det hördes inte ett dugg denna tidiga morgon. Eftersom den hörts på andra ställen i världen kan jag tänka mig att den sänder via Ryssland med antenner riktade söderut mot Afrika. Endast söndagar. BEFF
17565	23.2	0630	Mustaqbal med ID och African Horn-musik. Slutade 0658 med en adress till EDC, organisationen bakom programmet. S 3. BEFF
17870	27.2	1500	R. Rhino International Africa via Jülich på engelsk med masser af IDs, nyheder med fokus på Afrika. S3 BV



BM i Ecuador – Bandscan KV-86, 7/3 2004

Björn Malm, c/o Susana Garcés de Malm,
Avenida la Prensa 4408 y Vaca, Quito, Ecuador.

tel.: (+ 593 2) 2598 470

email: bjornmalm2003@yahoo.com

Rx: JRC-535, Loewe HF-150, Sangean ATS-808 Antenn: 12 m lw Ö/V, 24 m lw N/S + Lw Magnetic Balun + MFJ1025 phaser

Tyvärr ingen rapport från BM till detta nummer, men här kommer dock ett sammandrag för de audiofiler BM lagt upp på sin nya hemsida. Det innebär också i fortsättningen att BM:s ljudclip kommer att presenteras på denna sajt: <http://www.malm-ecuador.com>

Quito 5/Mar/2004 9:54

This morning on **5209,80 kHz** I heard up to 1100 UTC nonstop "llanero"-music. 1100 UTC religious talk by OM and rel. music. No IDs but said "...esta onda Sonora". Also talked about Colombia once. UTC -5. 246kb/93sec.

Quito 4/Mar/2004 14:17

Amigos DXistas! Listen to "Latest (10) Recordings". 5 stations on MW and 5 on SW.

530 - 1700 kHz:

529.93 Radio Iris, Quito (Ecuador) 158kb/59sec. 02/2004. In the mornings my wife and I always are listening to the news from Radio Quito or Radio Iris. A very good station "La Voz de la Comunidad".

540.18 Radio Corporación, Managua(Nicaragua) 192kb/73sec. 02/2004. This is a better recording than the one I had some days ago.

570.00 Radio Sol, Quito (Ecuador) 190kb/72sec. 02/2004. A station that almost every evening has sport program, mostly soccer.

640.04 R. Nacional de Ecuador, Quito (Ecuador) 166kb/62sec. 02/2004.

669.98 R. Jesús del Gran Poder, Quito (Ecuador) 213kb/80sec. 02/2004. Some times relay of the FM station "Francisco Estereo". The stations SW outlet has been inactive for many years.

1.7 - 30 mHz:

4485.94 R. Frecuencia VH, Celendín (Peru) 253kb/96sec. 02/2004.

4903,73 Radio San Mihuel, Riberalta (Bolivia) 118kb/42sec. 02/2004.

4959.97 Radio Federación Shuar, Sucúa (Ecuador) 228kb/86sec. 02/2004.

5952.48 R. Pio Doce, Siglo Veinte (Bolivia) 188kb/71sec. 02/2004.

6079.98 Radio San Gabriel, La Paz (Bolivia) 160kb/59sec. 02/2004. Sometimes here and some times on 6085 kHz.

Quito 3/Mar/2004 15:23

539.91 Radio 540 AM, Panamá City (Panamá) 178kb/66sec. Always sport program in the evenings.


540.00 Radio Auténtica, SF de Bogotá (Colombia) 198kb/74sec. Is dominating the frequency with rel. programs.

540.18 Radio Corporación, QTH presumed Managua (Nicaragua) 130kb/50sec. UTC -6 so it could be the Nicaraguan station. I will try to get a better recording.

Quito 27/Feb/2004 16:59

Dave Walko, USA has an unID station around this frequency drifting. I think I'm hearing the same station in the mornings around 10-1100 UTC drifting up (downwards between 4997-4996 kHz). For me it sounds more like Asia than LA. Listen to a recording with bad quality on my homepage.



73 från  i Quito! (When using my information give credit to: Bjorn Malm, Quito, Ecuador, SWB América Latina)

Stationsnyheter

ANGOLA. 7216.8, Rádio Nacional Angola has been heard regularly from about 2100 to 2300 with varied programming in Portuguese. Channel clear, though usually a weak signal, today it was coming in with a fairly strong signal from 2200 to 2300. Announced at 2200 as "Rádio Luanda" rather than Radio Nacional - possibly relaying local program (Tom Sliva, NYC, Feb 21, using a Grundig 800 with 75 foot wire on roof, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

BHUTAN. BBS INCREASES AIRTIME, RE-TIMES ENGLISH -- 21 February 2004

The Bhutan Broadcasting Service (BBS) has added another hour to its broadcast. BBS will now broadcast 15 hours on radio daily. Managing Director Mingbo Dukpa said that this is being done to help people especially in the remote areas gain more access to news and information. He said that BBS hopes to feature greater coverage of news and programs including current issues, development support programs, music, sports, art and culture.

At present the BBS FM network covers 13 dzongkhags. The service can be partially heard in Trashigang, Trashiyangtse, Mongar and Samdrup Jongkhar, besides the shortwave service. The Bhutan Broadcasting Service started as an amateur radio station by a group of youth volunteers in 1973. The Radio NYAB then broadcast 3 days a week.

Monitoring by Alok Dasgupta confirms that the evening programme in English is now an hour later, commencing at 1500 UTC on 6035 kHz, and now suffers strong co-channel interference from the BBC in Urdu. Times of other English transmissions are being checked (DX Asia via DXLD)

BOLIVIA. 4722.7, Radio Uncía [?] and 5952.4 both running Em Pio XII programming at 1000-1020, per Dave Valko observation on 27 Feb. Is Emisora Pio XII, Siglo Veinte now on two frequencies? (Robert Wilkner, NRD 535D - Icom R75 -Noise reducing antenna, Pómpano Beach, Florida, U S, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

BOLIVIA: I'm with my friend Marcelo Cornachioni in Chascomus, the "Argentina DX paradise". Yesterday, we head a new bolivian station on **4763,3 khz called Radio Television Chicha**, from Tecla, in Nor-Chicha province, Potosi Department. They announced on air

in 4760 khz and 100,5 Mhz. The first transmission's day was February 20, 2004. Reported from 2240-2400 UTC. At 0000 s/off. SINPO: 34433. In a few hours more, I am going to Buenos Aires and send you a new message with more informations about this new station. (73's Marcelo Cornachioni & Arnaldo Slaen via HCDX)

4763,3 Radio & Television Chicha, Tocla, Nor-Chichas province, Potosi Department. 2240-2400. February 22. Spanish. Second day on air!!!! They like reception reports and promise a souvenir for all listeners send they reports. I head this new station with my dear friend and DXer Marcelo Cornachioni, in a DX Camp in Chascomus, 124 kms. to south of Buenos Aires city. Music (bolivian folk). At 2323 ann. & ID by male as: "...este carnaval para todos los lugares de nuestras comunidades aledañas...Radio Chicha esta transmitiendo..."; other ann. & ID as: "Radio y Television Chicha, desde Tocla...estamos en su sintonia en 100,5 mhz y 4760 khz, banda de 60 metros, onda corta...reiteramos el horario de nuestra transmision que vamos a difundir en los proximos dias: 6 y 30 de la mañana hasta las 9 de la mañana en onda corta. 6 y 30 de la mañana hasta la 1 de la tarde en FM, frecuencia modulada.- Por las tardes, a partir de las 5 hasta las 8 de la noche tanto en FM como en onda corta. La television lanzaremos al aire (sic) a partir tambien de las 5 de la tarde hasta las 10 y 30 de la noche. Nuestra direccion para que usted, señor oyente de esta radio tan flamante, que se ha inaugurado el día anterior, por favor, haganos llegar sus reportes de cómo estaba sintonizando en su hogar, su comunidad, en su pueblo, en su ciudad, en su pais a la siguiente direccion: email nicotoja@yahoo.es celular: 711-60330, repetimos 711-60330 y el telefono publico de este pueblito, Tocla, es el numero 26137226, repetimos: 26137226. Estimado oyente, si usted nos hace conocer la edicion, la calidad de emision que recibe en su pueblo, en su comunidad, en su pais, en su ciudad, nosotros inmediatamente le estaremos llegando a usted con un recuerdo de Radio Chicha, de Tocla. Estimados oyentes, vamos a proseguir dando rienda suelta a nuestro programa...". SINPO: 34443. S/off at 2400 UTC. Schedule in SW:1030-1700 UTC and 2100-2400 UTC. I can see Tocla in a Potosi map. The town is to south of Potosi city, at south-east of Potosi department (Hammond maps). (Arnaldo Slaen & Marcelo Cornachioni, Argentina via HCDX)

HAITI. Now that Cap-Haïtien has fallen to rebels, we may wonder what becomes of 4VEH, the onetime SW station, and still operating on MW 840 and FM 94.7. Here`s their website: <http://www.radio4veh.org/> opening page, nothing there until you go to <http://www.radio4veh.org/links/> Don`t expect any up-to-date news there. My impression is that 4VEH has always tried to stay out of local politix (Glenn Hauser, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

JAPAN. A Puzzler: NHK Fukuoka --- Glenn: **6130.0, usb: NHK R One**, Fukuoka, Japan. Powerhouse signal produced by their nominal 600 W, peaking at ~S8 with 53m. random wire but heard better, with less low frequency howling noise, with 22m. dipole, on 02-29-04 from 0915 through 0947Z. Phone callers, with male and female very jocular studio hosts: conversational and good-humored program, content not identified as I cannot speak Japanese. Jazzy musical IDs (presumably) like a typical western talk show; at 0928 some rather cool jazz music, which I assumed to be end-of-segment outro. More talk; then children's choir, which I *thought* I also could faintly hear under static at 3260. Transmission mode USB, no LSB signal heard at all. Signal in AM detection mode was exceptionally noisy to the point of being unintelligible muck; but in USB was extremely clear, quiet, and listenable at tune-in, decreasing gradually to rather poor at 0947. What puzzles me is that ILG Radio db says the frequencies are, respectively, 6133.8 and 3259; WRTVH says 6130 and 3259. So my experience doesn't match either publication. ID heard at 0950Z, and "Fukuoka". Best, (Steve Waldee - retired CE, San José, California, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

NEPAL. Hi all, sorry to bother the entire list but I accidentally deleted the mail of the one who was asking me about Radi Nepal's 7165kHz frequency. I haven't observed them using that frequency for a few years now. Even though it keeps being published in books like the WRTH an PTWBR or ILG, the frequency has really not been in use for a long time now. Two years ago they used 6100 kHz for a while but seem to have dropped that again.

The only shortwave frequency in use at present is 5005 kHz with two 15 Min. English segments at 02:15 and 14:15 UTC. However, they seem to have TX problems at present. Right now (04:45 UTC) they should be on with Nepali programming but there's nothing. The MW tx on 792 kHz ist going strong though... (73 from the foothills of the Himalayas, Thomas Roth via HCDX)

NIGER? Hello everywhere, this evening I received a weak station with talks in French on 3260 from 2105 to 2102. After listening several times to my tape recording I believed to hear the ID "Voix du Sahel". However there are still some doubts. The station was closing down at 2102. Who does know more? (vy 73 Michael Schnitzer via HCDX)

SOLOMON ISLANDS. 9545 is off air; needs some better air conditioning as overheats but working on that might be a while to fix this problem --- but the news is that the transmitter and dipole are fine. So will advise more when the next little birdie tells me more..... (Johno Wright, March 1, ARDXC via DXLD)

Övriga radionyheter

Konvent, 8-9 maj å Kanebergstugan Halmstad

Vi börjar 15.00 den 8:e. Bra övernattningsmöjligheter finns i Kanebergstugan. Du behöver bara ta med lakan, örngott och filt. Toaletter och duschar finns tillgängligt. För er som vill ha hotellrum så kan detta ordnas ca 1 mil från Kanebergstugan. Utöver sedvanligt program gäller följande tider:

Lördag

15.00 Välkomstfika
19.00 Gemensam middag
22.30 Nattmacka

Söndag

08.30 Frukost, därefter förflyttar vi oss till golfrestaurangen i Marbäck
12.00 Lunch på restaurangen

Anmälan görs till Leif, 035-446 20 eller per e-mail: leif.blomqvist@halmstad.mail.telia.com, senast 2 maj 2004. Pris per person c:a 340:- för er som ligger över i Kanebergstugan. För er som bor på hotell, blir kostnaden utöver hotellrummet 270:-.

Välkomna önskar Leif och Ivonne.

Sensational brazilian website

Hi friends, I want to say, that I discovered a sensational brazilian website, with links about radio stations on-line around the world. The website is: <http://www.radiosonline.com.br/index.php> In my opinion this website is really "THE BEST".

(73s for all, Antônio Schuler, Recife (Pernambuco), Brazil Member of the SRDXC, <http://www.srdxc.com> via HCDX)

TIBET QSL BRINGS HIGH PRICE

This is getting out of hand!!! A card described by the ARRL as the second rarest QSL card in the world, from station AC4YN in British Mission to Lhasa, dated 25 August 1946 recently sold for \$594. Just in case you ever wanted to know (Joe Miller, Troy MI, MARE via DXLD)

Inquiring minds want to know what the rarest card is. Brings to mind the old 'Get Smart' line: "Chief, that is the SECOND rarest QSL I've ever seen...." hi. Kvz (Kenneth Vito Zichi, MARE ed., via DXLD)

What could be the oldest radio station in the world? (rec radio.shortwave)

And another item on memories. Back several weeks ago, we presented the story here in Wavescan of what could be the oldest radio station in the world, station KUOA in Siloam Springs, Arkansas. The program producer at this station, Matt Reddin, discovered the script of this program on a website, radiodx, in New Zealand and he made contact with us, requesting a live 20 minute interview over the phone. As a result of these events, radio station KUOA is seeking registration as a Heritage Site, as the oldest radio station in the world (Adrian Michael Peterson, AWR Wavescan Feb 29 via John Norfolk, DXLD)

(I thought it was a station in the UK, anyone able to clarify this? Mike)

Drake R8B vs. NRD-525: My Experience *by Bob Rydzewski*

I've been a fan of the HF band for quite a few years now and have been very satisfied with the performance of my radio. It's a Japan Radio NRD-525 that's been tweaked out with Collins filters and a Sherwood SE-3 synchronous detector. Bob Sherwood himself did the tweaking. It's been reliable and enjoyable for cruising the big international broadcasters as well as for DXing the tropical bands from three different locations.

Now it seemed to me that in the twelve or so years since I bought my NRD-525 improvements in microprocessors and circuit design should have made for better, more sophisticated shortwave receivers that would make my radio seem akin to one of those cathedral sets from the '30s. Or at least result in an audible improvement in the ability to handle the weak signals I always look for. Read any of the hype in the shortwave hobbyist press and you'll find modern receivers with "outstanding" sensitivity, "superb" performance, etc., etc. At the time my NRD came out it seemed to be state-of-the-art, but twelve years is a long time and surely some good changes must have come about in that time. So even though my current set was in perfect working order I decided to invest some of the fruits of my labors (I mean \$) in a new receiver.

One of the shortwave sets most frequently praised is the Drake R8B. It's a five-star receiver by all accounts. And it's even built in America, so no need to increase the national debt (ignoring, of course, all those parts which are probably made by our friends in Malaysia or China). The R8B has been praised for its aural qualities, a definite advantage over the admittedly hissy NRD-525. And doing a comparison of the specifications (a sure route to disappointment if there ever was one) shows that the Drake should be more sensitive, selective, and have a higher dynamic range and image rejection than my old set. Another frequently hyped set is the newer incarnation of my receiver, the DSP Japan Radio NRD-545. I'd done some research on all the options and was initially scared away by the sound files I downloaded from the web which demonstrated some strange "digital" chattering and clicking sounds that seemed to go along with this set. The clincher for the Drake was that if you buy it directly from the factory you get 15 days to send it back for a full refund, so you really can't lose anything except for the shipping fee.

This being the case I was excited to find the box at my front door. I'd already downloaded and studied the owners manual so it was no problem to get my brand new "baby" up and running. I'd decided that the only way to go initially was to do a direct A/B comparison with my old receiver. I could do this by reversing my antenna switch, which normally selects between two antennas for one receiver, so that I could switch just one antenna between two receivers. Also, to be fair, I used the same set of headphones, switching it between both. I was confident that by doing a comparison using the same antenna and the same headphones at nearly the same time (it took about 5 seconds to switch between the two) I'd prove the superiority of the Drake, the correctness of all the reviewers, and of course my own good sense in buying the new radio.

My initial impression of the Drake was that, although it was kind of cool looking, I didn't care for the backlit LED display, where the lighting is uneven and blotchy. Everyone seems to knock the tuning knob as being too lightweight, but to me this wasn't much of an issue. I could get used to it. Also, plugging in to an outlet that was controlled by a light switch was not a good idea since every time the switch was turned off the next time on the radio would display "POWERLOS" and the clock would need to be reset or it would keep intruding on the frequency display. These are very minor points however, and one or two of them could be easily remedied.

In at least ten hours of direct comparison under a variety of conditions (night & day, high & low frequencies, strong & weak signals) I got to know the new set in a way one never could by reading reviews, manuals and specifications. There were a number of surprises there for me. The conventional wisdom is correct in that I found the Drake to be superior to the NRD-525 in terms of sound quality. Listening to one of the big international broadcasters, or listening to music on a medium to a strong signal was much more enjoyable on the Drake, which doesn't have the hiss endemic to the NRD but has apparently a much more robust bass response. Under these conditions the NRD just didn't have the "oomph".

Of course the sound quality of both receivers is improved by synchronous detection and in this respect I couldn't find too much difference between the Drake's built-in "Synchro" and the NRD's outboard Sherwood detector. The Drake's, however, when used in sideband selectable "Synchro" did seem to introduce a bit of fuzziness in the sound that was especially apparent if the signal wasn't strong. Somebody had noted this on a web review, and whoever it is was right. This isn't too much of a drawback in reality since (as with the Sherwood detector) I didn't find the Drake's ECSS to be too much use in the weak signal DXing I normally do. It does minimize certain types of fading, but these tend to occur above 9 MHz and are usually noticed with moderate to strong signals, not so much on weak tropical band ones. So a five star rating is in order for Drake sound quality on good solid signals.

Disappointingly, the Drake's improved sound quality does not translate into an improvement in weak signal intelligibility. The annoyingly hissy NRD signal was often easier to copy than the relatively boomy Drake signal. However, the real disappointment for me was that despite what the specs say (sensitivity supposedly < 0.5 microvolt for the NRD and < 0.25 microvolt for the Drake) the R8B was not measurably better at picking up weak DX than the NRD, even using its built in preamp. In listening to many, many such signals on both radios there were a some cases when one was a bit better than the other for a given signal, but overall they were so similar that I would almost use the word "equivalent". Of the 43 signals I compared one day 11 were slightly (and I do mean SLIGHTLY since I'm a very picky listener) better on the NRD-525, 12 were slightly better on the Drake, and 20 were the same. Of those 12 signals that the Drake was better for, 5 of them were moderate or strong (over S9), where the Drake's better sound qualities made me give it the nod. For truly weak signals, the NRD beat the Drake 10 times while the opposite happened 6 times. The bottom line is that, although the odd signal might come in slightly better on the R8B, there would be no dramatic improvement in my DXing prospects with that receiver. I could use it as a supplement to my old one if I wanted to, but it was definitely not the kind of superior replacement I'd had in mind.

In Drake's favor I can say that their notch is a little deeper and the noise filter arguably a bit better than the NRDs. However I ran across something very unexpected. Again, despite the better image rejection figure given for the Drake, I found very annoying images at 2320 and 2440 kHz which were absolutely not there on the NRD at the same time using the same antenna. Am I interested in this frequency range? No, but this just doesn't measure up to my own QC standards. At one point on a Sunday morning (Hamateur time, no doubt) the Drake was abuzz with a CW interference signal at ALL frequencies, even with the RF gain turned completely down to zero. A shielding issue? Who knows. But again, the Japan Radio was silent on this. But perhaps the most annoying thing of all was that the Drake was off by between 0.01 and 0.02 kHz, so WWV was really at 9999.99 kHz. In AM or Synchro mode, of course, you won't notice, but to a DXer tuning around in SSB it's quit annoying, and that great audio fidelity served to make the Donald Duckishness more apparent at the more easily tuned even frequency. I read somewhere that you can open up the receiver and fix this, but shouldn't it just be calibrated for the right frequency before they put it in the box? Did you have to open up your new big screen TV set and do a service procedure to get the channels right?

All in all, I concluded that the R8B is a very good receiver. Had I compared it to a portable radio or not done a direct A/B comparison with another good tabletop set, I'd be happy to own the Drake. If my interest was primarily in SWL I'd keep it for the nice sound quality. However for weak signal DXing this set offers no significant advantage over the 12 year old set I already have. And in my mind only a real advantage could justify the extra \$1.5K. So back to Ohio it went, and my compliments to the enlightened folks there who refunded my money with no questions asked.

At that point, although I could feel self righteous about my old set and had saved some money, there was still a void in my life. A spot somewhere labeled "New Receiver" was annoyingly empty. Was it time to go digital and get the NRD-545 after all? Well that's another story...

(Bob, thank you very much for a very interesting review, very much appreciated! / ed)

Final B03 update for WRTH2004

Below are details of the final B03 update for WRTH2004. This revised update includes station information and schedule changes up to 1st March 2004.

The March update is the last update for the B03 season; it includes changes published in the February edition, further updated as necessary, plus additional info reflecting changes and new information received during the last weeks. This is a 13 page pdf file and can be downloaded from the WRTH website: www.wrth.com or by following this link: www.wrth.com/wrthupdatesmarch04.pdf

There are updates on the following International Broadcasters: Alaska: KNLS International; Albania: Radio Tirana; Armenia: Voice of Armenia

Australia: HCJB Australia; Austria: Radio Osterreich 1; Azerbaijan: Voice of Azerbaijan; Bangladesh: Bangladesh Betar; Belgium: TDP Radio; Cambodia: Radio Nationale du Cambodge; China: China Radio International; Croatia: Voice of Croatia; Cuba: Radio Habana Cuba; Cyprus: Sonnet Radio; Czech Republic: Radio Prague; Denmark: World Music Radio; Djibouti: IBB relay station; Ecuador: HCJB; Equatorial Guinea: Radio Africa; France: GolosPravoslaviya; Gabon: Africa no. 1; Georgia: Radio Georgia; Germany: Christian Science Herold; Radio Santec; IBB relay stations; Greece: Voice of Greece; ert3; Guam: KDSA; Hungary: Radio Budapest; India: All India Radio; Iran: Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran; Ireland: RTE Radio; Israel: Kol Israel; Italy: IRRS shortwave; Korea: Radio Korea International; FEBC (Korea); Kuwait: Radio Kuwait; Laos: Radio Nationale Lao; Liberia: Voice of Liberty; Libya: Voice of Africa; LJBC; Madagascar: Radio Feon'ny Filazantsara; Malta: Voice of the Mediterranean; Mongolia: Voice of Mongolia Netherlands: Radio Nederland Werelomroep; New Zealand: Radio New Zealand International; Norway: Norkring; Pakistan: Radio Pakistan; Palau: T8BZ/Voice of Hope; Philippines: Radio Veritas Asia; Poland: Radio Maryja; Portugal: RDP Internacional; Romania: Radio Romania International; Russia: Voice of Russia; Slovakia: Radio Slovakia International; Sri Lanka: Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation; Turkey: Voice of Turkey; Ukraine: Radio Ukraine International; United Kingdom: Al-Asr Radio; Bible Voice Broadcasting; FEBA Radio; Radio Ezra; USA: AFTRS; BBG-Radio Free Afghanistan; BBG-Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty; BBG-Radio Sawa; BBG-Voice of America; BBG-Radio Aap Ki Duniya; IBB; Adventist World Radio; Overcomer Ministry; Truth For The World; WMLK; WRNO Worldwide; WSHB; WWRB

Also included are the latest updates for the following clandestine/target broadcast stations: China: Voice of China; Voice of Tibet; Eritrea: Voice of Liberty; Ethiopia: Dejen Radio; Kestedamena Radio; Radio Mustaqbal; Radio Solidarity; Radio Voice of Oromo Liberation Front; Segalee Oromiyaa; Voice of Ethiopian Salvation; Voice of Oromo Liberation; India: Radio Sedaye Kashmir; Voice of Jammu Kashmir Freedom; Iran: Radio Avaye Ashena; Radio Barabari; Radio Sedaye Iran; Radio Yaran; Sedaye Komaleh; Voice of Iranian Revolution; Iraq: Denge Mezopotamia; Lebanon: Radio Mashreq; Myanmar: Voice of Burma; Democratic Voice of Burma; Nigeria: Jakada Radio International; Saudi Arabia: Sawt Al-Islah; Sri Lanka: Voice of Tigers; Sudan: Sudan Radio Service; Syria: The Arabic Radio; Turkey: Voice of Tigris; Vietnam: Degar Voice; Radio Free Vietnam; Western Sahara: National Radio of the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic.

(Regards, Sean D. Gilbert, International Editor - WRTH (World Radio TV Handbook) Email: sean.gilbert@wrth.com via HCDX)