

# SHORTWAVE BULLETIN

Issue no. 1594. July 23, 2006. Deadline next issue: Aug 04, 2006 (E mail Aug 06, 0900 SNT)

Den värsta värmen har gett med sig för denna gången. Nu på morgonen låg dimman ganska tät över Mardal, vilket normalt brukar innebära att resten av dagen blir fin.

Den långa värmeböljan har gjort att vattnet i Skälderviken börjar nå upp till 25 grader och även den mest tvehågsne bör kunna ta sig ett dopp.

Vi har inte gjort några större resor under semestern, men ett besök nere på Österlen och en tripp till Hallands Väderö har vi hunnit med.

Till detta nummer har ännu en amerikansk DX-are hört av sig angående medlemskap. Kul att se att lilla SWB ändå kan väcka intresse hos fler än de nordiska DX-arna.

Vi får väl se hur det blir till hösten när semestern är över för de flesta om vi kan förvänta lite fler bidrag.

Keep on ....

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## SWB-info

SWB online på HCDX: <http://www.hard-core-dx.com/swb>

Dateline Bogotá: <http://hem.ektv.nu/~ekt035221/Dateline.htm>

SWB hot stuff: <http://hem.ektv.nu/~ekt035221/> (på denna sajt ligger alltid senaste SWB).

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

Jubileumstidskriften: <http://hem.ektv.nu/~ekt035221/> (html- + pdf-version).

## QSL, kommentarer, mm.

*It is nice to again welcome a new member, Adam Brower from Mendota, Illinois, USA. I thought SW was almost dead but people out there obviously read SWB despite parts of it is in Swedish. Welcome to the bulletin and looking forward to see your contributions in SWB in the future.*

**Adam Brower:** Who am i? i've been swling and dxing for nearly fifty years, although i had a long hiatus between 1988 - 2006. now i've acquired a collins 390A, which i need to dig out signal in my very poor location: midwestern u.s. (doubleclick on the attached file if you have google earth... = Mendota, Illinois) i'm running an ewe, a homebrew sloper, and i just put a DX-1 Pro on the roof (with mixed results.) i've been mostly listening on higher bands - 25, 31 meters - to keep current on world events. but today there was some skip - i logged AIR nagpur on 1566 khz!

that is a very big deal in my location. this has me interested in mw and trop bands again.

in addition to the 390A, i have an etón E1XM, and i gave my ten year old son an etón E10. now he's got the bug, too.

(by the way, i don't speak or read swedish or any scandinavian language, but i DID name my son Beowulf!)

btw, as a demonstration of the awesome sensitivity of the collins, the E1 yielded nothing on 1566 khz while the 390A dug out a listenable bulletin of news - with the same antenna. and the E1, as you know, is a good rig.

i would say antenna theory and experimentation are my current interests - i'm doing trial and error with different grounding setups this week, with very interesting results. i'm trying to work out switchable ground radials for different bands - i'll let you know how that goes. complicated!

when i get frustrated with bad reception here, i log into kelly's rommele dx site and pretend i have 7 ewe's of my own in the swedish countryside. i hope you can add me to the swb roster.

if there's anything else you'd like to know, just ask.

thanks a lot for your work in providing the bulletin. regards, adam brower

*(Adam, Beowulf is not a Scandinavian name - I think it is more likely a German name! /ed.)*

**Anders Hultqvist:** Jag har äntligen börjat leka med utrustningen igen. Grannen på landet, Dalarö Folkhögskola, har lagt ner verksamheten och flyttat till annan plats. Det verkar som om störningarna son funnits här i alla år har minskat i omfattning, och stundtals är banden kliniskt rena från man-made noise. Än så länge har jag bara en enkel lw, men lite bättre grejor ska jag testa senare. Jag tänker även försöka mig på att köra Dalarö-riggen via internetuppkoppling och på så sätt utnyttja detta även när vi befinner oss hemma i Älvsjö, för inne i stan är det inte så lätt att få ut något vettigt pga störningsnivån. För detta ändamål används då Winradio 313 + dator med bredbandsuppkoppling på Dalarö och dator med Client/Server Option for WR-G313 Series Receivers (<http://www.winradio.com/home/g313-cso.htm>). Det borde ju fungera.

*(Skall bli intressant att höra mer om detta experiment, kanske kan bli slutet på expeditionerna om allt funkar som det ska. Tänk att bara åka upp en gång och placera radion som sen kan fjärrstyras .... /red)*

**Jan Edh:** Än surrar radion! Efter tre månaders både ofrivillig och frivillig inaktivitet gav jag efter för locktonerna och lämnade gästerna hemma åt sitt öde för ett besök i Fredriksfors på lördagskvällen 15 juli. Vi var "alla" samlade för att bland annat äntligen fira Nordx-lagsegern vilket skedde med tårta, tillbehör och massor av mygg.

Eftersom radion visade sig fungerade blev det litet lyssning också. Och även om det från andra källor rapporterades fortsatt dåligt blev jag överraskad att så mycket hördes. Inte före 01 (sommartid) då jag nattade en stund. Men 03.40 (när jag vaknade nästan exakt vid tiden för soluppgång och 40 minuter senare än planerat) och ännu till efter 05 surrade det på många frekvenser. Utöver nedan listade gick t ex 1380 (Corporación, 1410, 1470 (Vibración?), 1500, 1510, 1540. Däremot var det bara DRM-sprak från 1612 på 1610.

## LOGGEN - ALL TIMES ARE UTC

3325	15.7	2245	<b>OID Brasse</b> som bör vara Mundial, men bolaget skiftar väl en del vilken station man lägger ut här (liksom på 4975). QSA 3. JE
4052.42			<b>Guatemala Radio Verdad</b> , Chiquimula with Organ music 2325, strong signal. 10 July [Wilkner-FL]
4545.16t.			<b>Bolivia</b> 2340 to 0000 under massive CODAR making any log near impossible. Het with weak audio. 10 July [Wilkner-FL]
4650.20			<b>Bolivia, Radio Santa Ana</b> 2325; 2350 gone by 0010 on 10 July [Wilkner-FL]
4779,9	16.7	0229	<b>Radio Coatán</b> med anrop och musik snutt varefter man stängde. Också Verdad 4052,5 gick men inte lika stark. QSA 4. JE
4790,2	16.7	0230	<b>Radio Visión</b> med häftig predikan. Är väl egentligen pingstkyrkans men vad jag fattade var det här för frälsningsarmén (La Voz de la Salvación) eller? QSA 3. JE
4876.25			<b>Brazil, Radio Difusora Roraima</b> , Boa Vista 1010 to 1030, Have positive ID's. Never any sign of the Bolivian which used to broadcast on this frequency. 10 July [Wilkner-FL]
5460.05t.			<b>Peru, Radio Bolivar</b> , 0000 to 0030 weak audio. 11 July [Wilkner-FL]
5470.70t.			<b>Peru, Radio San Nicolás</b> 0010 to 0020 very weak. 11 July [Wilkner-FL]
5486.65			<b>Peru, Radio Reyna de la Selva</b> 2352 popular music with good signal. 10 July [Wilkner-FL]
5580.2			<b>Bolivia Radio San Jose</b> 2325 to 0030 with weak signal, music. 10/11 July [Wilkner-FL]
5677.76			<b>UNID</b> Very weak het where <b>R Ilucán</b> used to be very strong. 0010; 0020 11 July [Wilkner-FL]
5699.84			<b>Peru, Radio Frecuencia San Ignacio</b> 2350; 0000-0005, excellent signal, no ID on the hour. 10/11 July [Wilkner-FL]
6214,1	15.7	2240	<b>Radio Baluarte</b> med portugisiska och religiös musik. QSA 3-4 men distad signal. JE
9704.1	20.7	1905	<b>La Voix du Sahel</b> , Niamey med nyheter på franska, lite lokal musik och ett hälsoprogram. 2-3 CB
9705.02	21.7	1900	<b>La Voix du Sahel</b> noterad på denna frekvens den 21 och 22 juli. Sedan följde nyheter på franska. 2-3 CB
15110	17.7	0450	Ett litet kuriosatips: <b>Radio Kuwait</b> med en språkkurs där man i rasande fart repeterade en massa fraser av typen "Do you mind if I smoke", "Do you smoke", "Do you have a cigarette", "Do you have a match"... Lätt absurt idag kan ju tyckas, men i Kuwait röker man kanske fortfarande som skorstenar? AHK

## Stationsnyheter

**AUSTRALIA. Re 6-105, UNIDENTIFIED:** ARDS is indeed back on SW 5050, as first reported July 17 by Alex Vranes in WV. On the ARDS website it is still hard to find anything about SW, but there is a streamer giving all their AM & FM frequencies, and finally at the end:: ``Across north-east Arnhem Land on HF Radio 5050 kHz``. See <http://www.ards.com.au/radio.htm> or their other pages. Now to DX ARDS, it's again a matter of finding a time when it can propagate and when there is little or no co-channel QRM, and Alex already accomplished that, at 0910-0950 (Glenn Hauser, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

**BANGLADESH** Dear friends, The Home Service of **Radio Bangladesh** was noted yesterday 12 July 2006 on **4750** at around 1430 UTC (parallel to 693 kHz MW). Off by 1600 when I checked. They were testing this freq and 4880 very recently along with 41 meter fqs. 73 Jose Jacob, VU2JOS National Institute of Amateur Radio (via HCDX)

### **BANGLADESH Bangladesh Betar to set up 1000-kilowatt capacity transmitter in Dhamrai soon**

SAVAR, July 11 (BSS): A 1000-kilowatt capacity transmitter will be set up at Dhamrai soon at a cost of Taka 650 million (65 crore) aiming at further strengthening the transmission of Bangladesh Betar.

This was stated by Information Minister M Shamsul Islam who was the chief guest while inaugurating a 100-kilowatt short-wave transmitter here.

The information minister said the people of the country would be able to change their fortune if it is possible to reach accurate and objective information to them as information is considered as a vital force of democracy as well as development.

Presided over by Director General of Bangladesh Betar AFM Matiur Rahman, the function was addressed, among others, by Information Secretary Muhammad Haidar Ali and Chief Engineer of Bangladesh Betar Delip Kumar Saha.

Describing Betar as a powerful mass medium, Shamsul Islam said still Betar is the most effective medium to reach information to people from all walks of life, specially those who are living in the rural areas. "Betar can play an important role in building a developed nation by airing different development programmes on family planning and use of modern technologies in agriculture to increase agri-products," he said.

Recalling the past glory of Betar, he said this state-owned organisation became an inseparable part of our history by playing an important role during the country's War of Independence. The information minister said President Ziaur Rahman had guided the nation by proclaiming the independence of the country from Kalurghat Betar station, Chittagong during the country's War of Independence in 1971.

He said the government has liberalised the transmission policy, as it believes in people's rights to know. This liberalisation policy has helped create positive competitiveness among the transmitting media, he added.

The information secretary termed the information technology (IT) is an important thing in the present era of globalisation.

We have to go forward with expertise in this regard to achieve the millennium development goals, he added, with the launching of this 100-kilowatt short-wave transmission, the listeners of Bangladesh Betar living abroad would be able to listen its programmes clearly.

Via <http://www.financialexpress-bd.com> 73, Swopan Chakroborty Kolkata, India (via DXLD)

**BENIN. EXTENDING THE REACH OF GOD'S WORD --- TRANS WORLD RADIO RECEIVES BROADCAST LICENSE FOR NEW STATION IN WEST AFRICA** <http://www.twr.org/index.php?option=content&task=view&id=593&Itemid=141>

Cary, NC, July 17, 2006 --- Moving one step closer to airing the good news of Jesus Christ into spiritually needy West Africa, international Christian broadcaster Trans World Radio (TWR) has received the official broadcast license for a powerful 100,000-watt AM transmitter in the country of Benin. Government officials in Cotonou, Benin, granted TWR the license at a special ceremony on July 4.

“My heart was full of joy to see that the prayers of the whole family of TWR around the world are answered,” says the Reverend Abdoulaye Sangho, TWR-West Africa director, who represented the Mission at the ceremony. The new facility, which is still under construction, is scheduled to begin broadcasting in April 2007. It will become TWR’s 15th major international transmitting location.

Broadcasts to West Africa will be transmitted in a way not seen since a civil war resulted in the destruction of Radio ELWA in 1990. Once the Benin site is completed, TWR’s programs will provide sound biblical teaching and discipleship training. Additionally, plans call for broadcasts for children, nonreaders and those affected by HIV/AIDS.

According to Operation World (21st Century Edition), nearly half of West Africa’s 241 million people belong to another major world religion. Most of the West African nations have numerous unreached people groups without an established indigenous evangelical church. Radio, then, is one of the most effective and cost-efficient ways to share Christ’s love with this vast region.

In late 2002, TWR began discussions on the possibility of a new transmitting site in Benin. In June 2003, then President Kerikou, a Christian, began the process which today has resulted in a license to broadcast from near Parakou, Benin.

Rev. Sangho shares that “partnerships are being formed with several individuals, churches, missions and organizations that have been waiting and praying for this opportunity to come and air the Word of God through radio.” A group of African writers are already hard at work on scripts and translation, preparing programs for the new Benin station. FM stations can be heard in several large cities of West Africa, but often the signal fades just outside suburban areas. The new AM outlet will fill the gap.

“I want to express my personal appreciation to all of you who have been praying for this project in Benin,” says Stephen Boakye-Yiadom, TWR international director for Africa. Please pray for the installation of an AM antenna, completion of the building and shipping and installation of the transmitters.

More on this: [already linked in 6-104] TWR-Africa's Web site <http://www.twrafrica.org/0083.asp> For more information: David McCreary, 919.460.3778

This station will use 1566 kHz, but it appears from this press release that reports that it was already tested were somewhat premature. According to the last paragraph the aerials and building have not yet been completed and the transmitter not yet delivered (Dave Kenny, BDXC via DXLD)

**INDONESIA. 4749.90, RRI Makassar**, 1045-1105 July 19. Noted steady Hindu type music until 1058. At that time woman comments briefly in Indonesian, then theme music. This followed by time ticks and Man with canned ID. On the hour news until 1105 when music continuous. Signal was fair to poor (Chuck Bolland, Clewiston, Florida, NRD545, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

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WRTH 2006 has an asterisk which I think means inactive, but schedule was 0745-1555, as well as 2045-2400, with 20 kW. PWBR “2006” also shows “temporarily inactive”, 50 kW at 08-16. This used to be the most reliable 60m Indonesian here, ex-Ujung Pandang, ex-Makassar (Glenn Hauser, OK, DXLD) See also UNIDENTIFIED 5050

**NIGER:** Hi Glenn, it's definite now: 18/07, 1900, **9705.0: La Voix du Sahel**, ID in French, followed by drums and news in French "Le Président de [la] République, Mamadou Tandja..." etc. Mauno Ritola observed Sign-on at 1657. SINPO 34443 at 1900 (USB to avoid Ethiopia). Good audio also, nice catch. 73 (Thorsten Hallmann, Germany, DXLD)

**PERÚ:** Saludos cordiales, información facilitada por el Señor Carlos Gamarra Moscoso. Según informa Carlos Gamarra desde el Perú el Ministerios de Transportes y Comunicaciones a devuelto la licencia a **Radio Universal** en la frecuencia de **6090 kHz**, sus emisiones por el momento son de tres horas, de 0600-0900, al frente de la emisora se encuentra el señor Luis Villasante cómo director y propietario, los informes de recepción a través del señor Carlos Gamarra Moscoso, director de frecuencias de Radio la Hora, Av Gracilazo 4II distrito de Wanchag, Cusco, Perú. José Miguel Romero (via HCDX)

**PERU, 4900.84, Radio La Oroya**, (pres), 1007-1030 At initial tune noted music briefly, then man in Spanish comments. He was joined by a woman in comments. This continued during period. Signal was poor, but held up until the half hour. (Chuck Bolland, July 14, 2006 via HCDX)

## Övriga radionyheter

**July 2006 DX Tuners Newsletter**, July 2006 DX Tuners newsletter, 6 Jul 2006

Greetings Fellow Member, Welcome to the July 2006 DX Tuners Newsletter. WOW !!! Exciting times here at the DX Tuners network, we have more news than you can "shake a stick" at. So, without further delay...

The U.S. space shuttle launched a couple days ago, destination International Space Station, and we have had many members and guests visiting the DX Tuners Network to listen to various radio feeds. Our Saugus, California supersite tuner was put on "guest mode" and received many listeners to the NASA and ABC feeds. Florida-1 site had a party, here is a quote from Mark, our dedicated site op at Florida-1 and Florida-2 (now back online after new antenna installed), " Florida 1 performed well today with over 20 listeners for hours. At one point just prior to launch there were 22 subscribers on FL1 and 9 on FL2. I sat and waited for it to all just blow up (radio equipment...bw) but it never did. Kelly's stuff really works and aint no joke! We all had a great time and I really enjoyed chatting with everyone while we waited for the launch. I understand that the air-to-ground comms were good all the way to main engine cut off (MECO) which is pretty good considering that the shuttle is almost 700 miles down range at that time.

New Sites : This month we have many excellent new sites to introduce to our members in our ever-expanding global network.

1. DX Rochester, New York...Site uses a Drake R8 receiver with 9-meter longwire and a Wellbrook ALA1530.
2. DX Pennsylvania...Receiver is Icom-718, antenna is a 100-foot sloper running east/west.

3. Phuket-2, Thailand...Icom PCR 1000, I believe antenna will be an EWE.
4. Hano Bay, Sweden...Great new site near the beach with EWE antenna facing east, receiver is an Icom-PCR 1500. Be sure to check out our article on main page on EWE antennas, they are truly remarkable especially for LW, MW, and tropical band reception.
5. Fife, Scotland, UK...Utilizing a Uniden Bearcat 780XLT with discone.
6. Our old friend, DXtuner San Diego, has rejoined the DXtuner network after a very long absence, welcome back.

Other DXtuner News Department: FM DX Sweden is now restored...The damaged UTP cable was replaced with a Wireless LAN and once again we can enjoy FM DXing at high level. 19 dB gain from 4 x 17 elements. Listen to half Europe via Duct on FM.

After a long absence, the old-favorite Gatwick, UK site will be returning soon. Im sure all our ATC enthusiasts will be glad. Nigel will be hosting this receiver at his new location south of Gatwick.

DXTuners will be installing a new site in Guadeloupe, French West Indies very soon. The receiver will be a Trident TR 4000, antenna is a discone.

DXTuners will have a new site in Hawaii very soon as well, the first ever. Can you imagine the listening possibilities from Hawaii?

Be sure to check out our new video reports section, on main page in left frame. Here you can actually see the super DXtuner supersites and rigs in southern Sweden, DXtuner Headquarters. In addition there is a video report from Geoff at DXTuners who shows us a little about Sirius satellite radio reception in America.

New Node Requests...If you have a receiver you want to share with others on the DX-Tuner network, you are most welcome to contact us. There is info on our main page. We at DXTuners are proud of our support team, and if you need help or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us using the "customer support" option, the link is of course on our main page.

I would also like to suggest that new members check out our very good aids, FAQ's, Visual Guide to Using Radios, and also DXTuners Toolbox. These will increase your enjoyment of the radios. That's about it for this time. Our url is, of course, <http://www.dxtuners.com/> We hope you enjoyed hearing the news, and are enjoying your visits to the DXtuner community. Stay Tuned. Brad Wall DXTuners Newsletter Editor San Bernardino, California, USA. <http://www.dxtuners.com> (via HCDX)

### The Boat Anchor Manual Archive Mirror:

This is a mirror of the manuals available at the **BAMA** archive. These manuals are available for download and free of charge. (via rec.radio.shortwave)

### Palstar R30CC vs. Chinese 339HF

Few months ago I bought on eBay a vintage Chinese military HF receiver 339HF. The radio was supposedly old-new-stock, still in its original box, and came with service manual (in Chinese, of course), two sets of headphones, lot of spare parts (transistors, capacitors, fuses, light bulbs), wire antenna and a backpack (the radio weights nearly 30lb).

After two months shipping time, the radio finally arrived more than a month ago. It definitely looked old and there were visible signs of some moisture damage, corrosion, and also some damage to the radio case probably due to a fall in transport. So I wasn't very hopeful and let it sit in the box until yesterday, when I found time to unpack it, clean it, and put it work.

What a pleasant surprize!!! This radio is great.



Few words about the radio itself. It's a military receiver built in 1976. Fully solid state, analogue tuning and display, coverage from 1.5 to 30 MHz, in six bands, frequency readout down to 1 kHz. Dual conversion, four IF filters - 6, 3, 1 and 0.4 kHz - AM, SSB and CB modes. Only one AGC position (somewhat fast judging by ear) and OFF, manual RF and IF gain (I guess based on what the knobs do, as both the manual and all signs on the radio are in Chinese), manual adjustment of beat frequency. Two headphone sockets, but no speaker. Only one antenna input (high Z), but comes with an accessory impedance matching transformer to connect low Z antenna. Has one additional control knob that must be some kind of antenna tuning circuit, as it has an air capacitor, but does not seem to behave like fine tuning, it rather improves sensitivity based on behavior of the S-meter. The S-meter does not have any scale so it is only a relative indication of the signal strength, and it also can be used as battery voltage meter when the AGC is OFF. The radio can be powered with 10 D-cells in a removable drawer, or the battery tray can be replaced with an removable AC-to-DC power supply which is switchable for 220 or 110 V AC. The case is typical military construction, thick aluminum painted camouflage green, with a sealed and clamped cover for the front panel. It is not truly waterproof but definitely a different class from any consumer or amateur equipment. The interior is mounted on a solid cast aluminium chassis. Everything is very solid and "oversized", and somewhat "crude" by modern Western standards - while it is not pretty, it is definitely very robust and functional. The tuning mechanism is a complex gear transmission. The different functional blocks inside the radio are fully modularized and individually shielded. Net, a completely different standard of design and construction compared to what we see in today's "disposable" consumer electronics.

So yesterday I finally took the radio out of the box and started cleaning. Also the external case was rather dirty and with visible marks of moisture, the interior looked clean. The AC power supply was heavily corroded on the exterior, as well as the battery trays and the headphones. I spent several hour cleaning it piece by piece with isopropyl alcohol (for a lack of any better idea). Finally when I

judged that the radio and the accessories were clean enough to minimize the risk of a short circuit (and hopefully a case of bird flu for the user), I decided to power it up, first with batteries and then AC.

Frankly I wasn't expecting the radio to function, at least not 100%. Contrary to my expectations, the radio works perfectly and still have not found a single problem. I hooked it up to a 40ft wire antenna and decided to compare it side-by-side with the Palstar R30CC.

So how does this piece of old Chinese military metal compare with a modern receiver? Surprise, surprise, the 339HF not only matches, but in some aspects it actually beats the R30. Here is my subjective review:

- Sensitivity: The R30 is clearly more sensitive, but in practice with the 40ft wire antenna it only translates in more atmospheric noise. Even with no signal and a long antenna the R30 S-meter reads at least S-3 on the lower bands (5-10 MHz), and the atmospheric noise is clearly audible and rather harsh. On the other hand the 339HF is a very "quiet" receiver, with much less background noise when no signal is present. During 3 hours listening session I could not find a single weak station (that would barely stand out from the background noise) that would sound better on the R30. On the contrary, several very weak signals actually sounded better on the 339HF (see more below under audio recovery).

- Selectivity: The acid test was Radio Universidad from Mexico City (weak signal from 10kW transmitter on 6185kHz) right next to Radio Nederlands on 6190kHz from Surinam. On the R30 Radio Universidad was only intelligible using LSB and narrow filter. In AM, with the wide filter, the powerful Radio Nederlands would completely "swamp" the weak signal, while with the narrow filter the audio was so muffled that it was very hard to understand, yet still with some signs of interference. The 339HF 6kHz filter would produce similar results at the R30 wide filter. However the 3kHz will produce a signal of similar clarity as the R30 on LSB, but more pleasant to the ear. Using SSB on the 339HF did not produce any significant advantage over the AM mode.

- Dynamic range: The 339HF can definitely accept the 40ft antenna without a slightest sign of overloading. I have not detected any images either. The only "defect" found so far is that a local AM station on 870kHz, which transmitter is only a mile or so from my house, leaked through somewhere around 9MHz - strangely enough it was a weak but very clear and "narrow" signal which could be tuned as if it was a distant SW station.

- Audio recovery: This is an area where the 339HF really shines. The audio is very pleasant, with a nice balance between bass and treble tones, no harsh noises, and somewhat mellow, very much like an old tube receiver. It is definitely much nicer than the R30 which tends to sound harsh on very weak signals and during fading. Although in absolute terms the audio recovery for weak DX signals is about the same on both receiver, it sounds more pleasant on the 339HF resulting in less "listening fatigue" after extended period of time. The only radio I have used so far which I would give a similar audio quality as the 339HF was the Lowe HF150.

- Ergonomics: Although the frequency readout is down to 1kHz, the scale is somewhat misaligned and now the radio misreads anywhere by 20 to 50 kHz depending on the band and frequency. Of course the scale can be aligned, and I will probably do it if I find somebody who can translate the service manual for me. However, it is very repeatable and stable. I have noted down the offset vs. WWF on each band I could test, and once the difference is taken into account I have noticed less than 1kHz drifting or change after 3 hours of operation. I repeated the test today, and after approx. 30 minutes warm-up the offset is consistent with yesterday's tests. The knobs are scattered around the front panel in somewhat strange pattern at first look, but after some time the operation is very logical and intuitive. All the knobs and controls are large, and although somewhat stiff, they are very easy to adjust and have a very solid feeling. SSB operation is somewhat more difficult than with the R30 due to the manual beat frequency adjustment, but very usable with a little bit of practice.

I connected the radio to an external audio amplifier and the sound through large speakers is as good as I can remember from any radio I have used or listened to.

Net, a very pleasant surprise and this radio has instantly become my favourite DX machine. In terms of selectivity and dynamic range it sounds as good as the R30CC, while the audio is as nice to the ear as the Lowe HF150. It beats the HF150 and the Sony 7600GR when it comes to strong signals and large antennas.

I hope it will last "forever", which may not be such a outrageous expectation, as it has come out working perfectly after 30 years of sitting in some Chinese military warehouse, where it was obviously subject to less-than-ideal storage conditions judging by the widespread corrosion of exterior metal surfaces, and moisture damage to the canvas bag, cartons, manual and all rubber or plastic surfaces.

(katekebo via rec.radio.shortwave)

**AM reception, cost, may give buyers pause** July 17, 2006, By Howard Wolinsky, Business Reporter, Chicago Sun Times

**I can remember when our neighbor, Mr. Lewis,** the prototypical gadget freak, bought the first FM radio on our South Side block back in the 1950s.

The sound was startling. The crystal clarity has stuck in my head ever since. A new dimension seemed to be opening. Of course, I was a lot younger and more impressionable then.

Now, I suspect, I'm the first guy on the block and the office to try out the new high-definition digital radio. In a world that has been rocked by iPods, satellite radio, surround sound, Dolby Digital and the like, HD radio isn't so startling.

Still, HD was a pleasant surprise, especially on AM stations, which now sound like FM, snap-, crackle- and pop-free. And FM stations broadcast on high-def are up to CD quality.

But the \$300 price tag, though down significantly from a year ago, will give most consumers pause. Is it worth the expense to hear your morning wakeup call on AM radio, with the news, weather and traffic -- my major daily use of radio -- in high-def? It's not worth it to me, and I suspect most listeners.

The good news is the price is going down, -- way down -- to maybe under \$100 next year.

On the other hand, if you like to listen to music on FM at home, and especially in your car, HD radio might be the ticket for you now.

Broadcasters, trying to break out of their playlist closet, are bragging about how HD2, the side channel to the main FM stations, makes new kinds of programming available. Indeed, there are several new formats being tried here, such as the all-dance station at WBBM 96.3 or the disco channel at WLIT 93.9 or the new country artist channel at WUSN 97.9, or the punk/young alternative channel at WKQX 101.1, or traditional jazz at WNUA 95.5.

If you can find a format you like, HD might work for you. Still, I don't think free HD will replace subscription satellite for some subscribers, such as Howard Stern fans at Sirius and Bob Dylan fans at XM. Information may want to be free, as they say on the Internet, but satellite radio costs, and people are willing to pay.

AM seems to be a problem with HD broadcasts. I was unable to receive any AM stations at the Sun-Times building downtown, the same problem I faced with XM Satellite Radio. And I had problems pulling in HD AM at my home in the far south suburbs.

Another downside: AM stations stop broadcasting in HD at night under Federal Communications rules.

I have a couple of tips for HD broadcasters. How about full-time world music channels for Chicago? And an all-Beatles station, which would make one of my wife's friends ecstatic.

I have friends who live and die by the Cubs and are frustrated that they can't hear WGN-AM broadcasts downtown at the office. So I have a tip for the Tribune Co.: migrate Cubs broadcasts to an FM station, which will boost listenership, help the HD cause and make some hapless diehards happy.

Meanwhile, if the firing of Dick Biondi and other jock legends on CBS' HD2 offering last week is an example of the industry's attitude, broadcasters don't seem ready to make the investment to see that HD becomes everything it could be.

<http://www.suntimes.com/output/business/cst-fin-hdradio17.html>

(Mike Terry via HCDX)

### **Sveriges DX-Förbund fyller 50 år**

**SDXF – Sveriges DX-Förbund fyller 50 år** och vill därför ta tillfället i akt att bjuda in Er till vårt jubileumsfirande med en middag med speciellt inbjudna gäster, som äger rum den 30 september 2006 hos Sveriges Radio i Stockholm.

Ett lysande tillfälle att träffa gamla och nya DX-bekanta och få en guidad tur genom Radiohuset (antalet möjliga deltagare i visningarna är emellertid begränsat, så därför gäller det att anmäla sig snabbt till dessa). Vi hoppas att du vill vara med på vår jubileumsträff, där visningarna börjar 15:30 och själva festligheterna beräknas pågå från klockan 17:00 till klockan 21:00.

Utöver mat och dryck (kostar 250:-) ser vi fram emot några timmars trevlig samvaro med många tillfällen till återblickar och framtidsvyer. Vi har också blivit lovade någon form av underhållning ...

Det skulle vara skoj ifall några av Er från våra nordiska grannländer ville vara med och fira våra första 50 år och samtidigt kanske diskutera framtiden, hur vi tillsammans skall kunna få vår underbara hobby att överleva även framöver.

Har du ytterligare frågor är du självfallet välkommen att kontakta mig direkt, antingen per telefon +46 54 561822 eller via min e-postadress: [ordf@sdxf.org](mailto:ordf@sdxf.org) eller Lars Wieden på 031-49 75 86, e-post: [vordf@sdxf.org](mailto:vordf@sdxf.org)

#### Programmet ser kortfattat ut så här:

15.30-16.30 Rundvandring på Sveriges Radio (antalet maximerat till 60 st)

17.00-17.30 Invigning av en person från Sveriges Radio

17.30-19.00 Festmiddag

19.00-21.00 program med kåserier, gamla stationsrepresentanter, underhållning, auktion m m . Sedan kommer vi att försöka ha en hearing om framtidens radio under eftermiddagen.

Mer om festligheterna finns och uppdateras allt eftersom på vår hemsida [www.sdxf.org](http://www.sdxf.org) där också anmälningsblankett finns.

<http://www.sdxf.org/sdxf/50jubileum.php>

Med bästa DX-hälsningar

Stig Granfeldt    Lars Wieden

Ordf SDXF        V Ordf SDXF