

# ANDEX



## INTERNATIONAL

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### DX PARTY LINE IS TWENTY YEARS OLD



*Clayton & Helen Howard, DX Party Line hosts*

The 29th of May, 1961, was an important day for DXers who listen to HCJB. It was on that day, twenty years ago, that the first broadcast of the DX Party Line went out over the air waves from Quito. During 1981 we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of HCJB so it is very appropriate that we also recognize the 20th anniversary of the DX program. Perhaps we should also mention another anniversary. It was on May 6, 1941, that Clayton Howard, the DX Party Line host during most of its twenty years, arrived in Quito for the first time. This month completes forty years that Clayton has served with HCJB in Ecuador.

A bit of the history of the DX Party Line would be in order. The originator of the program was Hardy Hayes, who is now serving as station manager for KVMV-FM in McAllen, Texas. KVMV-FM is a sister station to HCJB and is also affiliated with the World Radio Missionary Fellowship, Inc., the parent organization operating HCJB. During the 1950s HCJB carried a weekly program called the Party Line. This program provided an opportunity for missionaries in Ecuador to greet their friends and family back home. Since all the world could listen in, it was logical to give the

program the name, Party Line. It was much like the old-fashioned party-line telephones which used to be popular in rural areas. Participants on the Party Line were assigned regular spots on a monthly basis. However, there was a problem. Now and then there was a fifth Monday in a month and no participants for the program. Hardy had the responsibility of filling this odd spot in the program schedule. His solution was to start a program for DXers. This is how the new program got its name, the DX Party Line. There were not many such programs on the air back in 1961.

Starting as a once-in-a-while program, the DX Party Line was popular from the beginning. It wasn't long before it was made a regular monthly feature. A few years later it was increased to a once-a-week program and continued to grow in popularity. After a couple of years Hardy Hayes had to leave Ecuador and Clayton Howard took the program. Others who have helped with the broadcast at different times include Bill Ridgeway, Jim Roberson, Roger Stubbe, and Al Hatch. In 1974 the ANDEX club was inaugurated to enhance the effectiveness of the DX Party Line radio broadcasts. At that time the program was enlarged to its present format with three programs each week. The present schedule includes thirteen half-hour releases per week. There are three to the South Pacific, six to Europe, and four to North America. Thanks to the interest of many DXers around the world, the DX Party Line has been, and continues to be, one of HCJB's most popular programs in English.

As part of our celebration of the DX Party Line's 20th anniversary, HCJB will be offering a special QSL card during the month of May, 1981. To obtain a copy of this card it will be necessary for a DXer to send a reception report of a DX Party

Line program heard during the month of May. This special card will be offered only on the DX Party Line itself. This should be a collector's item so we hope all ANDEX members will avail themselves of this limited offer.

The DX Party Line was designed to serve and help DXers and SWLs. It has done this for twenty years. We trust this will continue to be true during the next twenty years and even longer. It has been a real pleasure to be able to serve DXers in this way for such a long time!

## MY START IN DXING

It is always interesting to hear how other DXers got their start in the shortwave hobby. Mr. G.A. MacDougall, of Charleston, West Virginia, tells us of his unusual start some years ago.

"I built my radio from a kit back in 1959, hoping to listen to ham operators. After completion of the set I realized that hams transmit mostly on SSB, or single sideband, which this radio did not receive. Being somewhat disappointed, I lost interest and discontinued using the set. This past Christmas my family and I traveled home to visit our relatives. While we were there my father retrieved the old radio from the attic and gave it to my young son.

"Upon arrival back in West Virginia, I repaired the headset and coaxed the old parts back to life. We hooked up a coat hanger as an antenna and received a BBC broadcast. Later we heard Radio Moscow, a station in Mozambique, and lastly, your station, HCJB.

"The reception was sketchy and constant fiddling with the corroded controls was required to maintain listening. On hearing your offer of a QSL

card, we copied the information. I ran downstairs for an atlas to pinpoint Ecuador for the children and to identify Quito as the broadcast source. When I returned your signal was lost and we were unable to find it again.

"I hope this qualifies us for the QSL card and a program schedule with frequencies and times if you have one available. After I tear the set down, clean it up, and add an antenna, we should be able to tune your frequencies more frequently!"

We are glad to add that the MacDougall family was sent the QSL card. Certainly other ANDEX members have had interesting and unusual experiences in connection with their start in shortwave radio. Why not write to us and tell us your story? We'd be happy to pass it on to other members in our ANDEX bulletin.

## NEW ENGLISH DIRECTOR

A recent change affects our English-Language Service. For the past year, Richard Lemon has been the director of this service. He has recently returned to his home in Hastings, New Zealand and has been replaced in this responsible position by Phillip M. Sandahl. These two men come from widely different backgrounds. Richard spent many years in banking in New Zealand. Phill comes from the United States with a variety of educational experiences.

Phillip Sandahl was born and grew up in the Chicago area. He was born in Oak Park, lived a short time in Downers Grove, then his family moved to Wheaton, Illinois. He received his early education in the Wheaton schools. He then obtained his bachelor's degree from Wheaton College with a major in anthropology. This was followed by a three-year stint of military service. He was an administrative officer in the United States Army. When he returned to civilian life, Phill continued his education. He earned a master's degree in education from the University of Arizona. This was followed by two years of study in the field of communications at the Fuller Seminary School of Missions in southern California. His final preparation for service with HCJB was a four-month period in San Jose, Costa Rica, where he and his wife studied Spanish.

Phill met his wife, Mary Jane, while still a student at Wheaton College. They were married while he was serving in Turkey with the army. He had a short home leave during which the wedding

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*Phill Sandahl works at his desk*

took place. Phill then had to return alone to his duties across the ocean. The Sandahls now have four children, all boys. Their names are Kevin, Nathan, Scott, and Daniel. Their ages range from twenty months to nine years. Perhaps one of these days we'll have a male quartet to sing on HCJB's programs.

When Phill first arrived in Quito, in 1976, he was assigned to audience research. He has done a lot of background work investigating the audience that listens to HCJB. Who listens and where do they live? What kind of programs interest them? He has also been involved in training national personnel. Seminars have been held to help nationals understand the strategy needed to do better programming to reach the Spanish audience. Since December, 1980, Phill has been acting as International Program Director, filling in for Dave Manney who is presently on a furlough period in the United States. On March 16, 1981, he also took over the position of director of the English-Language Service.

No immediate changes in English programs are anticipated although these are bound to come later on. This would be true no matter who would be serving as director. Phill's current emphasis is on improvement of the quality of the English programs carried by HCJB. Also, he feels it is important that these programs communicate to the listeners tuned in. These two factors should increase HCJB's audience and popularity among shortwave listeners.

We extend a warm welcome to Phillip Sandahl as he takes over this important responsibility. His voice may not be heard frequently on the air, but his influence will have a part in most of the programs you hear.

## ANDEX QUIZ

Check your knowledge of electronics and short-wave radio by taking this quiz. Mark the statements as either true or false. We'll provide the correct answers next month.

1. Spreading the outside plates of a variable air capacitor decreases its maximum capacitance.
2. The resistance of both tungsten and carbon is inversely proportional to temperature.
3. Coaxial cable cannot be made smaller because frequency response dictates its size.
4. If the third color band on a resistor is gold, the resistor is a 5% unit and is less than 100 ohms.
5. HCJB is celebrating its 50th anniversary during 1981.
6. The SCR is the solid-state equivalent of a dc latching relay.
7. Mu-metal is a specially treated material which has the ability to amplify.
8. Radio Australia has a very generous QSL policy. They offer a new QSL each month.
9. A secondary battery, unlike a primary cell, may be recharged.
10. A man of forty has better hearing than one of fifty. Therefore, he is more critical of his hi-fi equipment.
11. Several speakers in parallel reproduce sound more faithfully than one.
12. Fluorescent lights can cause serious short-wave interference.
13. Stereo phonograph cartridges are more sensitive to rumble than older monaural models.
14. Anechoic chambers are used to create reverberation during recording.
15. Submarines are capable of radio communication while submerged by using UHF frequencies.
16. The combination of two 10-ohm, 1/2-watt, resistors in series will have the same power rating as two 40-ohm, 1/2-watt, resistors in parallel.
17. The interval signal used by Swiss Radio International is played on a carillon.
18. Receiver stability is not important for single-sideband reception.
19. The very popular Yaesu FRG-7 receiver features digital read-out.
20. An interesting feature of the Sony ICF-2001 receiver is push-button tuning.

## SPORTS THOUGHTS

Younger DXers will probably not remember as far back as the 1960 Olympic Games, which were held in Rome. Carrying the flag of the United States was a tall, dignified, black athlete named Rafer Johnson. In 1958 Rafer had traveled to Russia to compete in the U.S.—U.S.S.R. track meet just weeks after Kuznetsov, of Russia, had set a new world's record in the decathlon. In one of the most spirited athletic duels of modern times, in Moscow, Johnson defeated Kuznetsov and set a new world mark. In Rome, in 1960, Rafer was again one of the most lauded stars who took part in the Olympic Games. He surpassed his Moscow performance and established another world record of 8,303 points for the decathlon.

As a student at UCLA, Johnson was a leader both off and on the cinder track. He served as student-body president during his senior year. He also took an active part in Youth for Christ. Here, in his own words, is some good advice from Rafer Johnson.

"All the trophies and championships received from men will pass away. I would rather strive to be the greatest Christian than the greatest athlete, because when the lights go out, it will be the Christian team, coached by Christ the Savior, that will finally win. Since that night I took Christ into my life, every phase of my life has been so much fuller and richer, socially, academically, athletically, and spiritually."

## DXer OF THE MONTH

One characteristic of modern society is that people frequently move. This even applies to DXers, such as Robert B. Harrison, our DXer of the Month for May, 1981. When Robert joined ANDEX in late 1978, he was living in Carterville, Illinois. This is a city in the southern part of the state. Recently he moved to New Bern, North Carolina. New Bern is situated on the Neuse River and is very close to the Atlantic Ocean. This should be an ideal location for listening to stations in Europe and Africa. Robert has no doubt noticed a difference in the stations he can hear easily following his move to New Bern.

Robert became involved in the shortwave hobby nearly four years ago. He heard HCJB for the first time during July, 1977. His first listening was done on a four-band Globe Patrol receiver which



*Robert's old listening post in Illinois*

he built from a kit. He has now upgraded his equipment to include a Realistic DX-160 and a Bendix Navigator 420. A 100-kHz frequency standard helps him spot the exact frequency of the station he is monitoring. At his Illinois location he had three random-wire antennas. We do not know what he is using at his new home. The picture shows Robert with his DXing equipment before his family left Illinois.

In addition to ANDEX, member No. 2765, Robert has joined some other clubs. These include the Miami Valley DX Club, World Radio Club, and Radio Australia Listeners Club. He also serves as a monitor for WYFR. He likes to spend several hours a day listening to his radios. Between 1100 and 1300 GMT and again between 2200 and 0500 GMT, you are likely to find him in his radio shack. When he wrote to us he had received about 150 QSL cards from forty countries. Undoubtedly, he has added more to his collection by this time.

Robert also has other interests besides radio. These include stamp collecting and model rocketry. He is one that should be especially interested in the 50th Anniversary stamps issued recently by the Ecuadorian government. These three stamps were featured in a recent issue of ANDEX International. Another activity is involvement with his local church. Before leaving Carterville, he was leader of the youth group at the First Christian Church of Carterville.

We are happy to introduce Robert B. Harrison to our ANDEX membership. He is not only a DXer, but is also a well-rounded young man with many interests and accomplishments. We wish him every success during the coming years.