

ANDEX



INTERNATIONAL

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CONTEST

During March, ANDEX members are invited to participate in a contest that is really for everybody. The challenge is to hear as many HCJB frequencies as possible in a 24-hour period. You select the start time and the end time will be 24 hours later. You select the day, but it must be between March 15 and March 30....that is, within one week of the spring equinox. This time is chosen to give no seasonal advantage to either northern or southern hemisphere members. Your best strategy would be to try several different 24-hour periods and submit only the best score.

Scoring will be as follows: one point for each HCJB frequency logged. Multiply the number of loggings by 1 if you live in the western hemisphere. Multiply by 1.2 if you live in Europe or Africa and multiply by 1.3 if you live in Asia or in the Pacific outside the western hemisphere. First, second and third place winners will receive prizes.

Logs must arrive in Quito by May 30 and winners will be announced in the June-July ANDEX bulletin and on DX PARTY LINE early in June. Loggings must meet HCJB requirements for QSL cards except that names of programs may be omitted if in a language you don't understand. Please log time in UTC, date in UTC, frequency, nature of the program (speech, singing, music, etc.). Most IDs are in English or Spanish even if the program is not. HCJB in Spanish sounds like AH-CHE-SAY-HO-TA-BAY.

Also, try to identify the language spoken! In cases of a tie, the person who correctly identifies the most languages being used will be the winner. However, no loggings will be disqualified for a wrong guess as to language. If you are not sure of the language, log it with a question mark. Note that each frequency can be logged only once even if the language is different.

Positive loggings of harmonics or spurs may be counted as a separate frequency, but sufficient proof must be provided that they were real, not produced by overload of your receiver. All such loggings will be checked in Quito for validity.

Included in this ANDEX is a chart showing all the frequencies HCJB uses and the time block they are in use. GOOD LUCK! AND GOOD LISTENING!

A BIT OF HELP

Donald Chang, of Box 4765 in Guayaquil, Ecuador, wrote recently to tell us of some pamphlets available from Radio Nederland. Maybe you would like to get them. One is the DX Service Catalogue which is available free of charge according to Mr. Chang. This is a complete list of data sheets produced to aid the shortwave listener. Also available is a list of the best receivers on the world market, including a brief description of each receiver and a price list on some. It is called The Receiver Shopping List. The place to write is Radio Nederland Wereldomroep, English Department, P.O. Box 222, 1200 JG, Netherlands.

NEED PARTS?

If you have an old receiver and haven't been able to get parts for it, you might want to try these two places: Puett Electronics, P.O. Box 28572, Dallas, Texas, 75228 or Modern Radio Labs, Box 1477, Garden Grove, California, 92642. Both are in the USA.

IF HE CAME TO YOUR HOUSE

Would you meet Him at the door with arms outstretched in
welcome?

Or would you have to change your clothes before you let Him
in?

Or hide some magazines, and put the Bible where they'd been?
Could you let Jesus walk right in, or would you rush about?

And I wonder . . . if the Saviour spent a day or two with you,
Would you go right on doing the things you always do?
Would you go right on saying the things you always say?
Would life for you continue as it does from day to day?
Would you take Jesus with you everywhere you'd planned to
go?

Or would you maybe change your plans for just a day or so?

Would you be glad to have Him meet your very closest
friends?

Or would you hope they stay away until His visit ends?
Would you be glad to have Him stay forever on and on?
Or would you sigh with great relief when He at last was gone?
It might be interesting to know the things that you would do,
If Jesus came in person to spend some time with you.

FEARLESS FORECAST: DIURNAL VARIATIONS IN RECEPTION

By John Stanley

Of all the factors that affect DXing on shortwave, diurnal (daily) variation in the ionosphere is the most important.... more important than transmitter power, antenna gain, season of the year, sunspot cycle, etc. What day and night do to the transmission path is so significant that all other factors seem small by comparison.

As an example, signals on 49 meters between Quito and London can vary by 120 dB between midnight UTC and 1200 UTC. That means that if I want to listen to the BBC News on 49 meters, I'd better try at sundown here in Quito, not at dawn. To give you a feel for 120 dB....the difference between 500 KW and 1/2 watt is 60 dB; the difference between 500 KW and 1/2 micro watt is 120 dB. We all know that 500 KW can cross the ocean to London from Quito. Less well known is that 1/2 watt can also make that trip when everything is favorable, but 1/2 micro watt will NEVER get across. That is to say that a listener in London will never hear HCJB on 49 meters at 1200 UTC. NEVER!

On the other hand, London listeners sometimes hear 26020 MHz from Quito at 1200 UTC, but will seldom hear it at 0000. For just as daylight kills DX on the low frequencies, daylight produces DX on the higher frequencies. That is why knowing what part of the world is dark and what part is light is your best aid in predicting DX and that is why daily variations in shortwave conditions are the most important variations of all.

HOW I GOT STARTED IN SWL

Tim Corcoran writes. . . . "I found a small radio in my house that had a band that none of us used. The band had SW printed on the side and numbers from 3.5 to 10. One day I turned it on to that band and heard the Voice of America. After a while I found the BBC, Deutsche Welle and Radio Canada.

I wrote to as many of them as possible and received their schedules. Before that I used to mark the radio with a crayon wherever I heard a station! However, remembering that the BBC was the green mark and Deutsche Welle was the blue was difficult.

I dropped the hobby for a while when I heard just about every station I could on that small radio. I eventually bought my present set, a Panasonic RF-2600. Right away I found about 15 new stations including HCJB. I now have 78 QSL cards, including 5 from HCJB. My most prized QSL is from Radio Greenland."

Tim is ANDEX 4164 and lives at 16 Vine St. Shavertown, Pennsylvania, 18708, USA.

Here is a preview of what to expect during the various hours of the day for the months of February-March. At local sunrise, you have darkness west of you and daylight east of you. Your most interesting catches will be on the lower bands to your west. You will be able to log stations halfway around the world on 49 and 31 meters. You will also find some interesting catches on the tropical bands. 49 and 31 meters will be interesting until one or two hours after sunrise.

By then, the higher bands, 16 and 13 meters, will be opening up to the east and across the equator (north or south). 11 meters will open up by 10 or 11 local time. Noon will be your slowest time, but you will want to check out 11 and 13 meters thoroughly before taking lunch and a long nap.

By 4 in the afternoon, you will begin to hear 16 and 19 meters coming to life with stations from the east. Dusk brings the best listening period with all bands full of signals, many of them in your language for your area.

As the evening wears on, the higher frequency bands will drop out, but the lower bands will pick up. By the time sensible people are in bed, the tropical bands will be hot. At midnight, you will hear strong signals on the lower bands from all over your half of the globe. Meanwhile, the 25, 19, and, perhaps, 16 meter bands will show mainly signals from west of you. At the same time, your maximum range on the lower bands will be decreasing from the east and increasing from the west. By dawn, the eastern stations are gone and you have maximum range to the west. And another 24 hours of exciting DXing is history.



IT'S A WHAT KIND OF ANIMAL????

SPECIAL DXer FROM JAMAICA

Gladstone Campbell is our special DXer for areas outside of the USA. Gladstone lives in Jamaica where his address is 6 Anderson Drive, May-Pen P.O., Clarendon, Jamaica. Gladstone wrote that May-Pen is a fast developing town in Jamaica. The two other towns of some size are Montego Bay, which is a tourist resort area, and Kingston, which is the capital of Jamaica.

Gladstone is ANDEX No. 4033, having joined in June of 1981. A year before that he began to be interested in shortwave listening and the BBC was the first station that he heard. Later, by accident, he picked up HCJB and continues to listen to it more often than the other stations. He uses a Fidelity Rad 18 receiver with a built-in antenna and some days spends up to five hours listening around on the various bands.

Gladstone is 31 years old, not married as yet, working as a waiter in May-Pen. His hobbies are swimming, reading and writing to pen pals. Perhaps some of you ANDEXers would like to write to Gladstone to congratulate him on being named Special DXer from Jamaica.

By the way, maybe you can see from his photograph, that Gladstone is wearing an ANDEX T-shirt. The T-shirts are light blue with black ANDEX logo and lettering. ANDEX T-shirts cost \$6.50 for members in South and North America and \$7.60 for members in other places. Send your order, along with the money, to our Florida office. The address is listed on the back page of this bulletin.



SPECIAL DXer

FROM THE USA



Our special DXer for this issue sets himself a challenge each week. He writes, "The first of each week, I list three countries that I don't have QSL cards from and I spend the rest of the week trying to pick up these countries. When I receive reception on these three, I list three more. I spend about one hour each night listening to my set. This is the most thrilling and relaxing hobby that I have ever had."

Obie D. Yeatts, our special DXer, lives at Route 1, Box 181, Cascade, Virginia, 24069, USA. He is ANDEX No. 3882. After listening to HCJB for many years, he finally decided to become a member of ANDEX. He also belongs to the Radio Prague Monitor Club.

DXing and SWL are Obie's main hobbies. He uses a Realistic DX-60 receiver and has a 75-foot copper wire antenna that he has stretched on the top of two unused telephone poles about 18 feet high. He also uses a cassette recorder as he listens to record programs so he can listen again or play it to someone else. He says that he often records programs from HCJB so that he can play them for his teen-age Sunday School class.

When Obie has a hobby, he sticks with it. He has been playing the organ for his church for 27 years and so, of course, lists music as a favorite hobby.

We hope that you will continue to play your organ AND your radio for many, many more years. Congratulations, Obie D. Yeatts.

PAY

We are moving slowly ahead with a new payment system for ANDEX which will relieve some of the problems that you have encountered when you try to renew your membership. It will also help us as we have had some problems trying to cash checks from certain banks and certain countries.

Therefore, let us try the following. If you are an ANDEX member living in Canada, you can renew through our local office in Canada. The address is HCJB, 3251 Sheppard Avenue E., Scarborough, Ontario, Canada, M1T 3K1. The Canadian renewal fee will be five Canadian dollars. Send the money along with your renewal slip to this address.

If you are an ANDEX member living in the United Kingdom, please renew by sending two and a half pounds to HCJB, 63a Main Street, Bingley, West Yorkshire, England, BD16 2HZ. Enclose your renewal slip so that they know what the money is for.

If you are an ANDEX member living in New Zealand, please renew by sending \$5.75 New Zealand dollars to HCJB, P.O. Box 5950, Auckland, New Zealand along with your renewal notice.

If you are an ANDEX member living in the USA, please continue to renew as before by sending \$4 to HCJB, Box 3000, Opa Locka, Florida, 33055, USA.

New members can also follow the same procedure, so if you know of anyone wanting to join, they can fill out the application blank and send it and the subscription fee to the local offices listed above.

We are still working out details for Australia and Italy and perhaps a few other countries, so continue to be patient. I will try to enclose renewal slips to you a bit earlier than usual so that the notice of who has paid for another year will reach me in time so that you will not miss any issues of ANDEX.

We'll hope and pray that these new arrangements will be more convenient both to you and to us. If there are problems, please let me know.

A NEW WAY

MY START IN SWL

Ed Insinger writes. . .

"It was September of 1968, summer was over and I was preparing for the fall semester at college. In between summer employment, I decided to build a radio from a kit, and chose the Heathkit GR-64 receiver. Building a radio from a kit was an interesting and educational experience. Although it doesn't seem that long ago, in 1968 tubes were still the everyday occurrence in receivers.

When the kit was completed, I was anxious to try the AM band, looking forward to listening to my favorite songs over WABC, which then ruled the airwaves as rock and roll king in the New York metropolitan area. I was quite satisfied with the radio, and decided to try out the three other bands which were labelled "shortwave," a word I was unfamiliar with.

According to the Heath manual that came with the GR-64, an external antenna coupled to the rear of the receiver would bring in signals from foreign broadcast stations in places like Europe and South America. Uncertain of such claims, I decided to erect a simple inverted - L antenna in my back yard. The results were astonishing. I was able to hear broadcasts in English from such places as Holland, Vatican City, Austria, Ecuador, and even the Soviet Union.

My first QSL request was made to HCJB, for reception of a Sunday morning broadcast from high in the Andes Mountains. I was thrilled. The first QSL to greet me came from Radio Nederland, where I heard the Happy Station program of Eddie Starts.

Since those pioneering days in radio, I have logged countries and received QSL's from 127. My favorites come from St. Denis, Reunion Island, Radio Greenland, Radio Free America, and Radio España Independiente, a strikingly beautiful QSL painting by Picasso.

My favorite area of SWBC lies in the missionary broadcasters. I am a Senior Ecclesiastic DX'er, having logged and verified 25 religious SWBC stations. I frequently send reception reports to HCJB and Vatican Radio, two of my long-time favorites.

Shortwave radio is a unique hobby capable of providing the patient listener with an insight into world affairs from every angle. Since radio waves know no boundaries and cross political ideologies, there is a limitless wealth of information waiting to be captured by the inquisitive listener. As an educational tool, it is superb in both history and languages. Beyond this, it is a valuable tool in the hands of man able to reach fellow men in the realm of friendship and understanding.

Fellow hobbyists may contact me at 28 Madison Avenue, Summit, N.J. 07901. I will QSL."

PEN PALS INTERNATIONAL

First on the list is ROBERT PASTRICK. He is 31 years old and lives at 973 Third Street, Baden, Pennsylvania, 15005, USA. Robert is ANDEX No. 4506. His interests include DXing, SWL, backpacking, fishing, outdoor survival skills, World War II history, submarines, UFOs, and pen pals. He also collects photos, postcards, QSL cards and paper money from places other than the USA. Robert promises to correspond with all who share similar interests.

RUSSELL PARKER lives at 43635 Cottisford Road, Northville, Michigan, 48167, USA. He is ANDEX No. 4499 and is 15 years old. Russell is a newspaper boy and has the hobbies of photography, collecting stamps, listening to music, corresponding with people all over the world and collecting information from radio stations around the world. He will correspond with anyone who will write in Spanish or English.

BRIAN TANSEY is ANDEX No. 4484 and he lives at 12 Clonmult Tce., Midleton, Cork, Munster, Ireland. Brian likes collecting QSL cards, SWL, music, fishing and CB radio. He says he will answer any letters received and states that he is 35 years young!

BOBBY RAYMER is ANDEX No. 4255 and he lives on Route 9, Box 98, in Cookeville, Tennessee, 38501, USA. Bobby is 29 years old and has the interesting job of being a dispatcher for a Fire Rescue and Ambulance Service. That means that he takes care of all the telephone and radio calls that come in and makes sure the rescues are handled. In his spare time, he collects, trades, and buys radios and related equipment. He also is a SWLer and likes to collect radio station pennants and QSL cards.

SANFORD RAY lives on 118 E. Mulberry Street in Amite, Louisiana, 70422, USA. He is 60 years old and is a very recent member, ANDEX No. 4524. Sanford has several job skills.... oil field welder, master mechanic, and heavy equipment operator. He also has some interesting hobbies such as photography, shooting, and mining gold and diamonds. Maybe he will give you some hints about the last one! He will be glad to write to anyone, anywhere, especially if they know of some good jobs.

CHRIS MERCHANT is ANDEX No. 4465 and he lives at the Royal Garden Apartments, Building 4, Apartment 1, Concord, New Hampshire, 03301, USA. He is 15 years old and interested in fishing, stamp collecting, mapping, and Bible reading. He, of course, also enjoys DXing, SWL, CBing, and QSLing.

Last on the list is JEFF COLLIER. Jeff lives at RD 1, Box 137 in Whitesville, New York, 14897, USA. He is 18 years old and in his last year of high school. He would like to correspond in English with anyone in any part of the world. Jeff enjoys coin collecting, SWLing, DXing and ham radio. He is ANDEX No. 4450.



I'd like you to marry me later. Right now, I am entering the ANDEX frequency contest!

ANTENNA CORNER

I quote from a recent letter from A. W. Henderson, 2582 Brandywine Drive, Dallas, Texas, 75234, USA....

"But just one word about antennas. I believe that every serious DXer should have an antenna with some thought in it. I read in the ANDEX bulletin how this one or that one was able to receive on a short wire laying on the floor or a wire hooked up to a gutter or something similar. What I am trying to say is that I think I would be ashamed to hook some of the antennas described to my Kenwood R1000. Oh, I know it would work because it is a fine receiver and will do a lot with any signal it can pick up at all, but then think how much better it would do with a good, insulated, long wire as high as you can get it and some thought given to its length and many other factors including a properly grounded system. Oh, well, I could go on and on and after all I am writing to the experts, but I hope you know what I mean. I just like good workmanship and craft in any hobby or anything else I set out to accomplish."

Well said, Mr. Henderson, and thanks for writing. ANDEXers, we have a little pamphlet on Shortwave Antenna Systems that we would be glad to send you. Write to me for it if you are needing a little help.

ANDEX International -

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International Program Director - David Manney
English Program Director - Andrew Steele
DX Party Line Host - Clayton Howard
ANDEX - Ruth Stanley

ADDRESS MAIL (WITH FUNDS) TO:
HCJB

P.O. Box 3000
Opa Locka, Florida 33055
United States of America

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