



TOM KENNEDY HONORED



When the name of Tom Kennedy, P.O. Box 413, Mason, Michigan 48854, came up as ANDEX member 5000 we asked him for more information about himself. His response is as follows:

"Thanks so much for letting me know I'm ANDEX member 5000. What an honor! I've been DXing since the late 1960's and never had such an honor bestowed upon me.

As requested, here is a little bit about myself.

I'm 31 years old and live in Lansing, Michigan - the state capital. I'm married to wife Diane and have a 14-month-old son, Jeffery. After spending 13 years as a local radio announcer in the mid-Michigan area, I now work as production manager at Action Printing in Mason. The printshop, which does both commercial and screen printing, is owned by Diane's parents, Skip and Phyllis Mustaine. It's a real family affair.

*"We've found...
a whole
better future..."*

I started DXing in high school with a Knight Kit Star Roamer I got for Christmas. I put it together myself. After various other portable radios I finally got my dream receiver - a Drake SW-4A. Now I can dial up an exact frequency and get it right every time. I use that receiver today with an SW-9 pole antenna. I've

QSLed most major shortwave broadcasters as a youth and am trying to do it all again as an adult.

As a sideline, I own my own mail-order business - TKRP: The Best in the Galaxy. I distribute licensed STAR WARS related merchandise to fans worldwide. Our catalog, 28 pages full of pictures, is free to all who write.

Recently my wife and I rededicated our lives to Christ and find new joy in reading His Word, having fellowship in a Christ-centered, Bible-preaching church and listening to not only HCJB, but the local Christian radio stations filled with song and instruction. We've found new life and a whole better future to look forward to. We'll probably never meet all of you on earth but what joy to chat together in heaven!

Again, thank you for giving me this honor of 5000th ANDEX member. I look forward to much listening to the Voice of the Andes - HCJB!"

FEARLESS FORECAST: DAILY CHANGES IN RECEPTION

By John Stanley

Some time ago I promised to introduce ANDEX members to the mysteries of short-term propagation prediction, that is, how we guess which days will bring improved radio reception conditions and make DXing more rewarding.

It doesn't take a new DXer long to realize that day-to-day variations in radio reception can be very significant. One day the airwaves are clear and full of exciting signals. Another day the band is "dead," or conditions are bad.

This variability is a curse and a blessing at the same time. For services that demand reliable communications, shortwave seems a less than ideal medium. However, for the hobbyist, the very UNPREDICTABILITY of shortwaves makes them exciting since the game of DXing is never the same two days in a row. And, it might be added, the variability provides entertainment and even employment for a few middle-aged radio nuts who write propagation columns!

WEATHER IS NOT A FACTOR

Before we get into a discussion of the factors that affect day-to-day variations in radio reception, I want to mention several factors that do NOT affect shortwave reception. One of these factors is the local weather. It is quite common for DXers to report local weather conditions when reporting reception for QSL purposes. This information is generally ignored by the recipient unless he happens to be interested in world weather rather than radio propagation. Local weather has virtually NO effect on shortwaves except that local thunderstorms can produce QRN or static.

The layers affecting shortwaves are 100 to 400 kilometers above the surface of the earth and as air travelers know, even at ten kilometers up, the "weather" is always clear and cold. Hence, attention to local weather as

a means of predicting shortwave reception will not be helpful.

Hams associate clear and cold winter nights with good reception, but I can assure you that if it is ever hot and cloudy in mid-winter, the shortwave reception will probably be the same as on the cold, clear night. The tilt of the earth produces the seasons and affects propagation, but local variations in weather and short-term shortwave conditions are not much related.

*The very
unpredictability of
shortwaves makes
them exciting...*

PLANETS NOT A FACTOR

Neither, in my opinion, is there a significant effect on shortwave caused by the position of the planets. The celebrated "Jupiter Effect" of a few years ago proved to be largely a hoax. A good thing, too, or I might not be here to say so. You don't remember the "Jupiter Effect" scare? Oh well, false prophets are soon forgotten. A few serious studies have attempted to find a correlation between planetary positions and radio waves, but with little success.

SUN THE MAJOR FACTOR

If not the clouds and not the planets, what then? Reception on shortwaves is directly controlled by the state of the ionosphere. The ionosphere, in turn, is produced and maintained by radiations of electromagnetic waves and charged particles from the sun. Therefore, what happens on the sun is all important for DXing.

If our sun should go dark, all shortwave reception would cease after a few days. Quite a few other activities would cease also! The dependability of the sun is something we take for granted. The heat and light output of the sun is remarkably constant, unlike many stars that vary radically.

In other ways, our sun is highly variable. Apart from the eleven-year cycle, the amount of energy at various frequencies and the number of particles being ejected from the sun show remarkable variations.

The sun is closely monitored in real time and in a number of ways. Some of the more interesting to DXers include: (1) a count of the number of dark areas (sunspots) visible on its surface, (2) the intensity of "white noise" at a wave length of 10.7 cm (2800 MHz) as well as other frequencies, (3) the level of x-ray emissions, (4) the output of charged particles. Information is available to DXers through Radio Station WWV and via telephone in the USA, 303-497-3235.

Plans are underway to announce solar indices on the DX PARTY LINE and to make predictions of shortwave conditions. How to use the above data will be a feature of future ANDEX articles. In the meantime, DXers interested in short-range predictions should begin to listen to WWV on 5, 10, 15 or 20 MHz at 18 minutes after each hour and to record the data given there.



JOHN STANLEY is
Director of Engineering
at HCJB

ANDEXING

THE ECUADORIAN POSTAL SERVICE TRIPLED ITS RATES in August causing havoc with our ANDEX budget. With this postage increase, almost our entire budget would have to be used for sending out the bi-monthly mailing. Obviously, we need to have money also to print the ANDEX bulletin, supply forms and handle other miscellaneous expenses.

Therefore, we are raising the ANDEX membership fee to \$5.50 (USA dollars) per year for an airmail subscription. Since we have not increased the membership fee since 1975, we ask for your understanding and sympathy with this new decision.

Students in Ecuador burn a bus or two when the bus fare is raised. If you feel the need to do something when you read about our fee increase, kick a dog, trample a flower bed, or even burn a bus, but, please, don't cancel your ANDEX membership!

To figure what the increase will be if you pay in your local currency instead of dollars, use a 40 percent increase factor. However, because of the continued strength of the dollar in relation to the pound, United Kingdom members face a higher increase. A year's membership for them will now be four and one-half pounds.

We will be using these new rates immediately for new members joining the club. However, current members will not be affected by the rate change until the time of their renewal.

FINNISH MEMBERS PAY NOW IN FINLAND by doing the following two steps. When you receive a renewal form from us that tells you that your subscription is about to expire, pay FIM 35 (the equivalent of \$5.50) to the bank:

Suomen HCJB/HCJB in Finland
Helsingin Sp/Helsingfors Sb
405506 - 09630716

Then send the renewal form or new member application form to:

Suomen HCJB - HCJB in Finland
PL-PB 111, 13101 Hameenlinna
Tavastehus 10

Don't forget to do both procedures--send the money to the bank account and the paperwork to the HCJB office in Finland.

NEW SWEDISH PAYMENT SYSTEM STARTS also. The ANDEX fees can be paid by "postgiro 68 06 80 - 6" or by "bankgiro 332-4407". The renewal form or the new member application form must then be sent to Radio HCJB, Box 110, 542 01 Mariestad. Since the exchange rate for the dollar fluctuates, the Swedish office has decided that the member will pay the Swedish krona equivalent to \$5.50 (USA dollars) at whatever the rate is on the day they make their payment.

DX PARTY LINE can now be heard on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. Check your schedule for times and frequencies.

A LIVE CALL-IN SHOW will be held on November 17th from 0700 to 0800 UTC to the South Pacific and Europe and on November 18th from 0230 to 0330 UTC to North America.

John Beck of DX PARTY LINE will host the show along with engineers Jim Heck and John Stanley. We encourage you who call to have technical questions.

NEW PRESIDENT FOR ECUADOR: On August 10, 1984, León Febres Cordero, an engineer from Guayaquil, Ecuador's principal port, was inaugurated as President of Ecuador.

His taking over of the presidency from the former president, Oswaldo Hurtado, marks a special occasion in Ecuador's history as it is the first time in 25 years that one democratically-elected government has been handed over to another, without a military regime being in power in between.

(The new President is the man with the sash right of center.)



OLD WORKHORSE DIES: As the DX world knows, for several years HCJB has been using an old "ham" transmitter on 26,020 kHz for worldwide DX coverage when the ionosphere permits. A recent move of the transmitter to HCJB's FM site at more than 12,000 feet above sea level proved too much for the old workhorse. After only a few weeks, the transmitter refused to function any more.

Does any ANDEX member have a transmitter he could donate to the cause of QRP DX on 11 meters? It could be anything from 10 to 1000 watts, usable on 10 or 11 meters, AM or SSB. We could also consider putting a SSB transmitter on 13 meters.

Please write concerning any offers, and we will let you know how to ship the gear. We might even pay shipping. But write first to our Fearless Forecaster, John Stanley, so that he can evaluate the equipment. The best way to write would be to use an airmail and send it to John Stanley, HCJB, Casilla 691, Quito, Ecuador.

Here is your chance to be famous. Let your old transmitter be "born again" on 26,020 kHz.

continued on last page

SPECIAL DXERS



Our special DXer for this month did not enclose a picture of his equipment but he did enclose some beautiful pictures. With a hobby of photography and living in Houston he was able to take the above Boeing 747 with space shuttle which is on display at NASA.

Charles Parks lives at 2123 Walnut Creek in Houston, Texas 77017. He is 60 years old, a widower and employed as a senior accountant in the tax department of one of the world's largest engineering and construction companies.

In addition to his hobby of photography, Charles has been interested in shortwave listening for the last three years. He has logged reception from stations in over sixty-five countries and has received verification by QSL card from stations in over fifty-five countries.

His equipment consists of a Sony ICF-2002 with a 70 cm telescopic antenna. Charles bought this radio mainly for use when he travels, both on business and for pleasure, since it is portable, easy to pack and light in weight.

He also uses a Panasonic RF-3100 with a one meter telescopic antenna, a Sony ICF-7600A with a 70 cm telescopic antenna, and a Sony Tape/Cassette recorder. At the present time his antenna system is limited to the telescopic antenna on each radio. However, he is planning on getting up an active antenna system in the near future.

Charles listens around three to four hours each weekday evening and eight to ten hours on Saturday and Sunday. He enjoys receiving, collecting and displaying the various items he receives from the stations to which he sends reception reports. He is an active member in eleven clubs associated with various stations including the American Shortwave Listener's Club and, of course, ANDEX. He is ANDEX 4417, having joined in 1982.

My son, Andy, has been happy to have Charles in the ANDEX Club because Charles sends him photos from time to time of the happenings at NASA. Let's all take time now to tell him how happy we are that he has been chosen Special DXer for this October-November ANDEX bulletin.

As long as I can remember, I have been very interested in radio and have derived many enjoyable and fulfilling hours constructing, experimenting and listening." Those are the words of Victor G. Taylor, our Special DXer from Australia.

Victor is 46 years old and has been interested in radio for approximately 30 years. His photo shows some of his equipment which includes a Drake SSR-1 receiver, a Realistic DX-100 receiver, a home-brew regenerative receiver, a converted Johnson Viking 352D transceiver for 10 meters, a home-brew double sideband transmitter for 80 meters and a transceiver for 2 meters.

His antenna line is a 30-meter longwire, a 10-meter half wave ground plane, 5/8 wave phased verticles and a seven element Long John Yagi.

He heard HCJB for the first time in October of 1983 and has been a regular listener ever since. Victor says that he finds the programs broadcast by HCJB very interesting and feels they fill a need not catered to by many other stations. Thanks, Victor, for those kind words.

Amateur radio is also very much a part of Victor's life as he gained his novice license, VK3NYW, in January of 1979, and then upgraded it to VK3KVT in September, 1981.

Victor lives at 55 Mt. Morton Road, Belgrave South, Victoria 3160, Australia, a location which is in the Dandenong Ranges, 40 kilometers east of the city of Melbourne. Check it out on your map if you aren't sure just where that is.

He is employed as a service technician for film processing equipment and enjoys photography, gardening, and bushwalking, along with SWLing.

Please, everyone, send your congratulations to Victor Taylor, ANDEX 4837, our Special DXer from "down under."



DREAM COMES TRUE

The station ID began to sound, then the time pips, and the light indicator shifted to show that I was on the air. I punched the button on the cart machine, and the theme sounded. Next, I pushed the mike switch and I was on the air, live, on three powerful shortwave transmitters beaming MORNING IN THE MOUNTAINS to missionaries deep in the jungles, listeners on islands in the Caribbean, and others in the cities of North and Central America. According to the reception reports, even listeners in Europe and other parts of the world were tuning in to one of these frequencies.

It was a thrill, the culmination of a 25-year dream. To actually be at HCJB, to work in shortwave radio, to live temporarily in Quito, Ecuador, all had been hopes and dreams for many years. Now it was a reality, and as the music played I sat back with a great deal of satisfaction.

I have listened to shortwave radio and in particular to HCJB for over 25 years. I have worked part time in commercial radio in Louis-

by Ken MacHarg

Broadcasting with a purpose

ville, Kentucky, for six years. I have written about shortwave, attended hobby meetings and HCJB presentations. I have several bookshelves full of material about international radio. But working for eight weeks as a working visitor in the English Language Service of HCJB has been indeed a highlight of my life.

How is working here different than working with radio in the USA? Outside of the whole experience of living abroad, I would point to two basic differences.

The first is the international aspect of the work. We are not broad-

casting just to one community, or one relatively homogeneous group of people. We are broadcasting to people in most countries on the face of the earth. As we broadcast we must be aware of different interests, customs, cultures, lifestyles, and proficiency in English. Just looking through the pile of letters in this department reminds us that we are heard by, and hear from, people all over.

The second difference is the purpose. It is not commercial, but Christian, with important emphasis given to programming. Broadcasting with this purpose adds an intensity and a creativity to one's work. We can be creative without the worry of getting a sponsor.

Working at HCJB is also pleasant. Positive people staff this station, people willing to help and offer themselves to others.

Now, as I tune to the Voice of the Andes, I will be able to picture in my mind these studios, the antenna farm, and the people who work here full time. Eight weeks at HCJB has truly been the fulfillment of a dream.

A VISIT WITH KEN

By Doris Hastings

I wanted to talk with Ken MacHarg. I had been hearing him on MORNING IN THE MOUNTAINS, PASSPORT, and the NEWS. I had read his book TUNE IN THE WORLD, and some issues of the excellent paper he edits, THE INTERNATIONAL SHORTWAVE LISTENER'S PROGRAM GUIDE. Whether speaking or writing, this man "pours out" with words. Ruth and I were delighted that he agreed to write an occasional column for "ANDEX International."

It was a busy day for him. He was to host four, live, call-in PASSPORT programs, something the English Language Service at HCJB had never done before. Early the next morning he would leave for home. Nevertheless he willingly fit in an interview.

Q: Ken, how did you get started in the shortwave hobby?

Ken: In the late 50's my dad, who was from England, got a shortwave radio so he could tune in the BBC. He would listen to HCJB also, and used to say if you can't hear HCJB you don't have your radio plugged in.

Q: What is your background?

Ken: I come from Detroit, Michigan, and am an ordained minister. Probably most interesting is that I was pastor of an English-speaking church in Panama from 1974-1977.

Q: What are you doing now?

Ken: I am executive director of Kentuckiana Interfaith Community in Louisville, Kentucky, an ecumenical organization that assists cooperation

between the churches. We do TV programming, have chaplaincies at jails and the Kentucky State Fair, and publish a directory of churches. I also do part-time announcing at WXVW Radio.

Q: We'd like to know about your family, too.

Ken: I met my wife, Polly, at college in Maryville, Tennessee, and we've been married 19 years. Polly teaches 8th grade science and Spanish. Our children are in high school--Beth is a senior and Brian a freshman.

So that's a brief look at Ken MacHarg, enthusiastic shortwave hobbyist and ANDEX charter member 24.

PEN PALS INTERNATIONAL

MARTIN ZVERN — K-Adenauer-Str 129, Gaggenau, Baden, West Germany D-7560 - ANDEX 5048 - interested in Morse Code and languages, including Esperanto, Swedish, French, Spanish, and English - write to him in any language listed.

ERICH SCHULMAN — care of Ms. Peggy A. Dickerson, 1513 Blackwood Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee 37923, USA - ANDEX 4903 - 16 years old - interested in steel band, Latin culture, radio, computer programming, and listening to Radio Cayman.

MALCOLM BELL — 61, Oldbury Orchard, Churchdown, Glos., England GL32PU - ANDEX 4444 - wants to correspond with people interested in railways.

WAN MOKHTAR RAMLEE — 15 Tkt. Haruan 6, Perai, Penang, Malaysia - ANDEX 4820 - 40 years old and

works as a social worker - wants to exchange cassette tapes of SW and MW radio broadcasts - interested in DXing and photography.

DAVID SCHOLES — 111 North 49th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19139, USA - ANDEX 4949 - will be glad to exchange music tapes - interested in fishing, sailing, camping, and hiking.

CHARLOTTE CHICKERING — 118 Castlewood Street #128, North Palm Beach, Florida 33405, USA - ANDEX 4872 - wants pen pals who like underwater diving and who live in Australia or Costa Rica - interested in sailing, underwater photography, analyzing people's motives, learning about computers, and tutoring children.

TERRY DE SANTIS — 3 Cherry Street, Oneonta, New York 13820, USA - ANDEX 4747 - 17 years old - wants to correspond with anyone in the world, especially in the eastern European countries - interested in bicycling, Bible study, painting, music, and DXing.

LARRY BEATY II — Box 479, Jamestown, Tennessee 38556, USA - ANDEX 4889 - 14 years old - wants to correspond with all Tennessee DXers - interested in sports, SWL-DX, world affairs, the study of social and political systems, and especially Sgt. Alvin York, American World War I hero.

DAVID K. CALLENDER — 207 Winter Drive, Richmond, Kentucky 40475 USA - ANDEX 4914 - wants pen pals in South America, Africa, and Australia - interested in DXing, baseball, collecting postcards, and doing volunteer work.

I NEGLECTED TO HELP A FRIEND IN NEED... I BACKED OFF FROM A CHANCE TO WITNESS



I FAILED TO TAKE PART IN OUR CHURCH YOUTH WEEK ...I MISSED OUR EVANGELISTIC RALLY



IT SEEMS THAT AS A CHRISTIAN I MAKE A LOT OF MISTAKES



I'M GLAD GOD DOESN'T SUE FOR MALPRACTICE!



TAKE MY HAND, LORD, and lead me through this day, step by step. Remind me that I cannot do everything I wish, nor do any of it perfectly. Only you are perfect, and only with your help can I do my best. Help me to remember to ask for that help.

ANDEXING [continued]

SEEDS IN THE WIND was written in 1961 by Frank S. Cook, a missionary with HCJB. If you are interested in learning about the early history of HCJB and seeing pictures of those first transmitters and antennas, then this is the book for you.

The Publicity Department of HCJB has 8,000 copies that they would like to give away. If you would like a free copy, write to Publicity Department, Box 691, Quito, Ecuador. When you write for the book, your name will be added to the general mailing list of the mission.



ANDEX International

is the official bi-monthly publication of Andes DXers International, a DX Club operated in conjunction with DX Party Line broadcast over Radio Station HCJB and sponsored by the World Radio Missionary Fellowship, Inc.



DX Party Line Host — John Beck

ADDRESS MAIL (with funds) to: HCJB-ANDEX, P.O. Box 553000, Opa Locka (Miami), Florida, 33055-0401, USA

ANDEX Staff - Ruth Stanley, Doris Hastings, John Stanley

ADDRESS MAIL (NO funds) to: ANDEX International, Casilla 691, Quito, Ecuador

Write for a list of ANDEX offices in other countries for your payment convenience.

Printed in Ecuador, S.A. by Imprenta Vozandes