

INSIDE:

My Favorite QSL	2
Hearing HCJB on 690 kHz	3
Person to Person	5

ANDEX INTERNATIONAL

Volume 21, No. 6
November-December 1994

Log fires and snowflakes?

by Sheila Leech

Roaring log fires ... brightly wrapped packages stacked up under a fragrantly scented pine tree ... traditional Christmas carols playing in the background ... snowflakes gently falling. If these are the images that Christmas Eve conjures up for you, you've never spent Christmas in Ecuador.

For the Ecuadorian family, *La Noche Buena* (Christmas Eve) is a most important occasion. Last Christmas I had the privilege of sharing *La Noche Buena* with Ecuadorian friends and their three children--in the city of Santo Domingo, halfway between the *sierra* (mountains) and the coast.

Preparations had not gone on weeks in advance. In fact, it seemed as if I were the only one in town who had made preparations or bought gifts before *La Noche Buena*.

The dirty, dusty streets of the city were jam-packed with vendors proclaiming the superior qualities of their wares. Squawking chickens destined for the oven ("corn-fed, I assure you, señorita"), shiny bright bicycles made in Korea, and cheap plastic cars and dolls were thrust towards us as we fought our way through the masses to buy essentials for the all-important midnight meal.

Around 10 p.m., Galo, the head of the household, led us in singing choruses and traditional Ecuadorian Christmas hymns. During the evening, friends dropped in to



Street children are the focus of an annual Christmas party, sponsored by HCJB.

wish us *Feliz Navidad* (Merry Christmas), and Galo read the Christmas story from the Bible in the book of Luke. He led us in prayers of thanksgiving for the wonderful gift God gave to humankind on that first Christmas.

Typically, just before midnight, the family served the food--stewed chicken with rice, cold vegetable salad and fried plantain washed down with large quantities of Coca Cola followed by ice cream. It was delicious food, but for the children, it was of secondary importance. Their presents under the tree--two each--were waiting to be opened.

Suddenly Adriana whispered something into her mother's ear as she

realized her friend, Claudia, who was visiting, had no gift to open. As her mother handed her two brightly wrapped packages, Adriana stepped over to Claudia, handing her the largest, "I want you to have this because you're my best friend."

I felt my eyes fill with tears as I realized this 11-year-old Ecuadorian child had shown me--so graphically, yet so simply--the essence of Christmas.

Sheila Leech, a nurse, serves with HCJB's Health Care Division.



DXer of the Month

“I live in Granby, Quebec, a town of 41,000 people,” he writes. “The capital of our province is Quebec City, the oldest capital in Canada. The historic part of town, walled and fortified, is popular for its buildings: the Citadel is the highest point, and the Chateau Frontenac overlooks the wide St. Lawrence River. On its long boardwalk every evening in the summertime, musicians and artists gather crowds of all ages for a pleasant evening. On one of our recent visits I was surprised to hear a group of musicians playing familiar tunes I’ve heard on HCJB. I inquired and found out that indeed it was music from Ecuador. The title of the cassette they sold is ‘Runayuyay.’”



Helmut uses a Kenwood R-5000 and a Realistic Dx-390.

“I work for a company that builds electrical transformers for utility companies, to be installed in towns for distribution of electricity. My job, which I’ve had for 25 years, is in testing.

“Some of my hobbies include carpentry, photography, car mechanics, stamp collecting, ballroom dancing, cross-country skiing and hiking. I also belong to a cultural group of German-speaking people.

“I came to Canada from Germany in 1958. At the time, I spoke only German. I quickly invested in a shortwave radio. For awhile I neglected listening, but in 1991 my interest was rekindled when I bought a digital world band radio and found it to be more interesting and easier to locate stations. I have QSL cards from more than 30 countries and keep them coming. Six of these stations have a religious orientation. The first station I verified was Radio Japan. I’m a member of the Radio Prague Monitor Club, Brussels Calling from Belgium and the Canadian International DX Club.

“I’ve become a shortwave listening addict. One of the stations that influenced me greatly was Trans World Radio. I always welcome the station’s human messages and wise advice. With programs like ‘Focus on the Family’ (also on HCJB), one becomes a better person.”

If you’d like to write Helmut, his address is: 538 rue Marcel, Granby, Quebec J2G 3C5, Canada.

My Favourite QSL

“My new hometown, Thornton-Cleveleys, is actually two towns, approximately 8 km north of Blackpool,” says John Crellin (ANDEX # 8704). “Blackpool is the premier holiday resort in Britain, even during the wintertime. Cleveleys, residential, with a large retired population, has a long stretch of beach. A tramway connects it with Blackpool.”

John describes his favorite QSL:

“In 1991 I listened with great interest to Radio Austria International. The language appeared to be strange, yet beautiful sounding--Esperanto. I found out more about it, and at the same time decided I would learn the language so I could understand the broadcasts. I began a tape language course, also contacted the local group through the British Esperanto Association and continued listening to Radio Austria’s international broadcasts.

“Subsequently, I learned that other stations also broadcast in Esperanto and tuned in to them. After a

year’s study I felt sufficiently proficient in the language to submit my first report to Radio Austria International. Unfortunately, despite being correct, my report failed--I



John’s long-awaited QSL from Vatican Radio.

had omitted the frequency. I later submitted a second Esperanto language report, but this time to the Vatican Radio. My studies paid off, and my feeling of achievement

was complete. Later, I received the Vatican Radio QSL. I’ve also scored successes with Radio Austria International and China Radio International.

“Esperanto--a language, hobby, and almost a way of life which I’ve found satisfying--brought me into contact with good friends within Great Britain and abroad. Esperanto is broadcast by Radio Austria International, China Radio International, Polish Radio Warsaw, Radio Havana Cuba and The Vatican Radio, as well as others.”

Hearing HC

by Rich McVicar

The Beverage Antenna (cont.)

HOW DO I GET THIS THING OFF THE GROUND?

Now, how to get the Beverage antenna wire in the air! Suppose a DXer lives in Pembroke,

remove one bolt, allowing the sticks to fold for storage.

Now, he sharpens the end going into the ground so he'll be able to successfully plunge it into the earth. If the ground is too hard, guy wires might be necessary. The top end should have a nail or hook, through which the antenna wire can be looped. The number of support masts

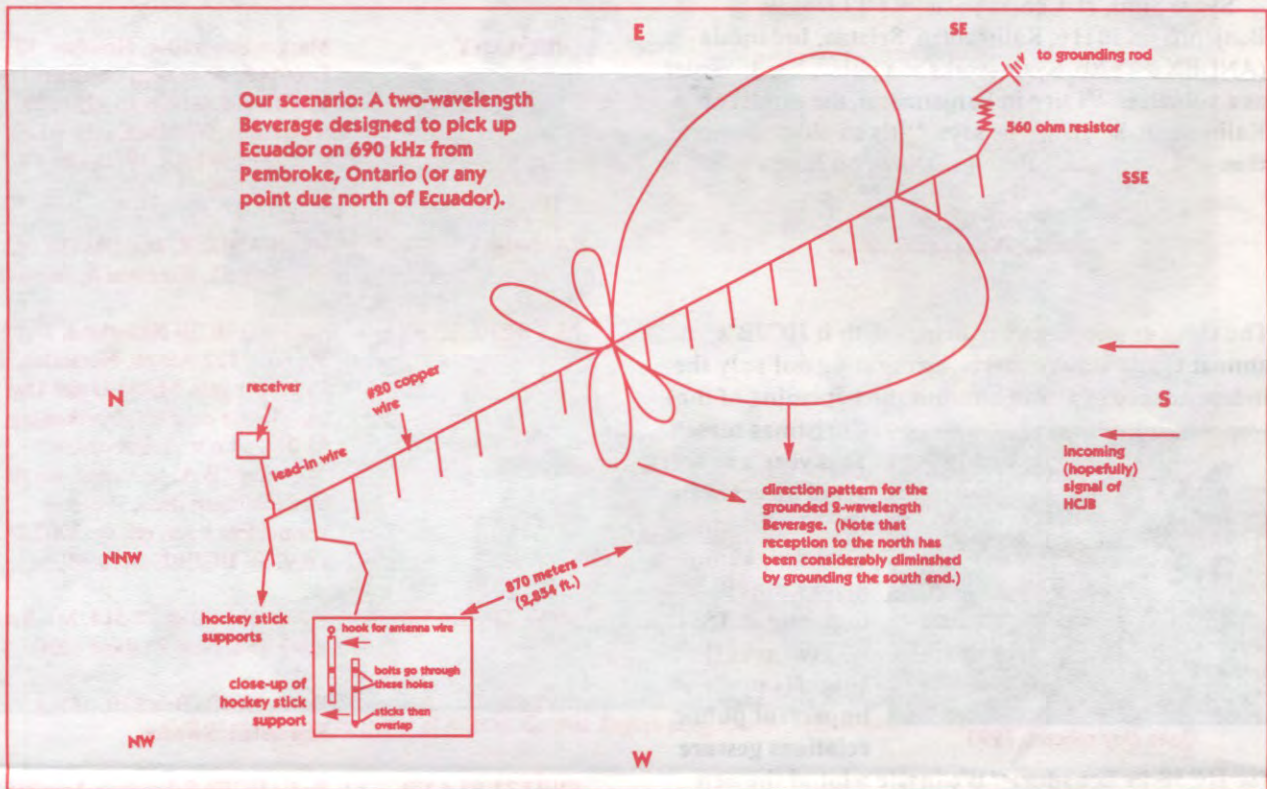


Diagram A

Ontario, Canada, and wants to try to DX HCJB on 690 kHz. He has heard about the *Cedric Marshall Quick Beverage-Raising Method*. (Cedric is an experienced Canadian DXer who found that old hockey sticks make excellent Beverage supports because they're made of hardwood, capable of withstanding winds, weather and antenna wire tension.) One day our DXer drives past the Pembroke Arena and sees a stack of old broken hockey sticks in a pile, free for the taking. His idea is to get his antenna about 6 feet (2 meters) off the ground, sufficient for Beverage antennas. He takes home the hockey sticks and drills two holes near one end of each. Two sticks can then be "added together" by sliding bolts through the holes. Later, when he needs to take down the sticks, he only has to

depends on the weight of the antenna. With lighter, uninsulated wire, fewer supports are needed to keep the wire high off the ground.

(Many DXers don't have the fortune of having a pile of used hockey sticks at their disposal. But numerous types of supports can be designed with a little ingenuity. For ideas, refer to the suggested articles.)

Finally, at the end closest to the receiver, a lead-in wire is clipped to the Beverage. The lead-in runs to the receiver a short distance away. (See reference list for an excellent article dealing with matching a Beverage antenna to a receiver.)

The Pembroke DXer is now ready to harvest the fruits of his labor.

J B o n 6 9 0 k H z

A COUPLE OF WARNINGS

1) Beverage antennas are not magic. In fact, after hooking one up, the first-time Beverage user might actually be disappointed at the lack of signals from certain areas. However, after awhile he or she will realize it is a result of the Beverage being so directional--only stations in the preferred direction will come in well. Beverage antennas are also characterized by very low noise levels. The desired signals may not seem very loud. However, the overall effect is that they are *clearer*--more above the background noise than they would be on another type of antenna.

2) Beverage antennas, as DXer John Bryant explains, can act as an "electrostatic sponge"! Wind blowing across the wire creates a static charge large enough to blow the front end out on a transistor receiver if the wire has not been discharged first. (This shouldn't be a problem with a grounded Beverage.) If there are thunderstorms in the area, it might be better to ground the receiver end of the antenna and take a break from DXing.

Most DXers don't have a farm on which they can erect such an enormous antenna. If this is your situation, do some thinking. Perhaps you know a farmer, or have a friend who knows someone with quite a bit of property. Farmers are sometimes not too keen on having wires strung across their fields during the spring and summer growing months but see no problem having their fields used for such unique purposes after the harvest. Most DX clubs have members who take their equipment and go on *DXpeditions* to farms or state parks as often as every month or two. They would love to have you go along!

Next in this series of "How to Hear HCJB on 690 kHz" we'll look at a much smaller type of directional antenna--the *loop* antenna.

Listen to HCJB's "DX Partyline" and "The Latest Catch" programs for information on the next 690 kHz test dates and times.

73 and *have fun* with that radio!

Richard McVicar

The next HCJB 690 kHz test program will be held UTC December 24, from 0515 to 0545 UTC. (That will be late during the evening of December 23 local time in western North America and further west to the date-line.)

References:

Beverage Antennas, John Bryant, Proceedings 1989. Published by John Bryant for Fine Tuning, 1989.

Impedance Matching a Beverage Antenna to a Receiver, Nicholas Hall-Patch and John Bryant, Proceedings 1988. Published by John Bryant for Fine Tuning, 1988.

The Beverage Antenna, Ivar Kristoffersson and Jürgen Paulsen, World Radio TV Handbook 1976, ed. J.M. Frost, Billboard Publications, New York, U.S.A., 1976.

The Wave ('Beverage') Antenna, Design and Operation, Bob Eldridge, Proceedings 1991. Published by John Bryant for Fine Tuning, 1991.

Rich McVicar, former editor of ANDEX, is HCJB's frequency manager and an English programmer.

*A Joyous
Christmas!*

For God so loved...

that He gave...

His only begotten Son...

that whosoever...

believeth in Him should

not perish...

but have everlasting life.

Person to Person

This holiday season is my second one in Ecuador. I'd like to share something with you that happened during my first Christmas in Ecuador.

received spiritual healing. To help him grow in his new life as one of God's children, a friend of mine, Gabriel, and I gave him a new Bible. It seemed like a natural thing for us to give. Little did we understand the true value to Carlos.

He first held the Bible gently. Then he turned it over and over, examining the cover, feeling the embossed



(left to right) Abel (a friend of Allen's), Gabriel, English programmer Allen Graham, and Carlos

The day after Christmas I met a 14-year-old from the central jungle of Ecuador. His name is Carlos. While returning to his family hut from work early last November, he was attacked by three men who stole his farm tools. They stabbed him three times and left him to die. His struggle for survival eventually led him to HCJB's Hospital Vozandes in Quito where we met and became friends. He was in Quito by himself as his family couldn't afford to stay with him.

He had a long road to recovery. In my opinion, he's a walking miracle, a testimony of God's provision. Why do I tell you this? Because last Christmas Carlos taught me a great deal about giving and the value of giving.

During his time in the hospital, Carlos accepted the gift of eternal life God provides because of what His Son, Jesus, did on the cross. In other words, Carlos received not only physical healing in the hospital, he also

words, "*Santa Biblia*" (Holy Bible). Finally, he opened its new, crisp pages and thumbed through--slowly, methodically. Then he closed his new brown Bible, looked at us and said, "Thank you. Now I have *all* of God's Word to hold in my hands and read."

I'm still impacted with those words, "*all* of God's Word." The Bible cost us only \$5.50 (U.S. dollars) and yet, to our young, new brother in Christ, it was of greater value. To Carlos, it was priceless.

Many times I take the value of my Bible for granted. I take the value of gifts I receive or give for granted. But, thanks to Carlos, I've gained a new perspective of the value of God's Word.

This holiday season I pray *you* will also grow in your appreciation, your understanding of the Bible.

May God bless *you* in a special way this holiday!

— Allen Graham

Pen Pals

Mohmedhusain B. Khatri, % Babu Abdullah Khatri, Khatri Chowk, Bhuj 370001, India (ANDEX # 8944). Mohmedhusain is a banker.

Jerry Sweet, 110 North 5th St., Millville, New Jersey 08332-3306, U.S.A. (ANDEX # 8921). Jerry enjoys shortwave listening as well as mountain hiking, bicycling, snow skiing, and roller skating.

Syam Simi, JL.Cendrawasih, RT 13 No. 39, Banjarmasin 70116, Kalimantan, Selatan, Indonesia (ANDEX # 8820). Syam works at a public health center as a volunteer. "I live in Banjarmasin, the capital of Kalimantan, Selatan," he says. "It's an old city--more than 460 years old." Besides DXing, his hobby is biking.

The close of another year brings with it HCJB's annual Quito Day concerts, celebrating not only the independence of Quito but also the beginning of the



Quito Day concert, 1993

Christmas season. This year's concert, again directed by HCJB missionary Tom Fulghum, marks the city's founding in 1534.

Tom says the concerts prove an important public relations gesture

for HCJB in Ecuador. "We invite a lot of the new government officials to the concerts. This gives us an opportunity to give testimony of the Lord Jesus to people whom we'd not otherwise reach."

ANDEX INTERNATIONAL

is the official bimonthly publication of *Andes DXers International*, a listeners' club operated in conjunction with the DX Partyline broadcast on HCJB.

ANDEX Managing Editor Ken MacHarg
Editor Ruth Ann De Flon



World Radio Missionary Fellowship, Inc., P.O. Box 39800
Colorado Springs, CO 80949-9800

HCJB, Casilla 17-17-691
Quito, Ecuador



Fees for ANDEX membership may be paid in the currency of the countries below by sending to the address given. One year's subscription to ANDEX International costs \$6.50 (U.S. dollars) or the current equivalent in your country's currency. If you choose to pay in U.S. dollars, you can send your fee to our U.S. address. *Please do not send any fees to Ecuador.*

AUSTRALIA

HCJB-ANDEX, G.P.O Box 291, Kilsyth 3137, Victoria, Australia

CANADA

HCJB-ANDEX, 6981 Millcreek Drive, Unit 23, Mississauga, Ontario L5N 6B8, Canada

FINLAND

Radio HCJB, PL-101, 15111 Lahti, Finland

GERMANY

Margot Stegmiller, Hebelstr. 32, D-69168, Wiesloch, Germany (fee: DM 15 auf das Konto 22816004, Volksbank Wiesloch, e.G, BLZ) 672 922 00) FAX 19-21 Uhr Ortszeit 06222-8678

JAMAICA

HCJB-ANDEX, Jamaica Office, P.O. Box 31, Kingston 6, Jamaica

NETHERLANDS

Stichting HCJB Nederland, Dalweg 30, NL-7122 Aalten, Netherlands (f. 15.00 per jaar. Maakt U dan Uw contributie over op girorekening 83 22 26 t.n.v. de Rabobank "Aalten" B.A. te Aalten. Bij de mededelingen dient U dan te vermelden: t.g.v. rek.nr. 3002.26.837 t.n.v. St. HCJB-Nederland)

NEW ZEALAND

HCJB, P.O. Box 27-514, Mt. Roskill, Auckland, New Zealand 1030

SWEDEN

Radio HCJB, Box 110, 54201 Mariestad, Sweden

SWITZERLAND

Radio HCJB, Schweizer Arbeitszweig, Postf. 119,8708 Mannedorf, Switzerland

UNITED KINGDOM

HCJB-ANDEX, 131 Grattan Road, Bradford, W. Yorkshire, BD1 2HS, England (fee: GBP 4.50 payable via cheque to HCJB, VISA or MasterCard via post or telephone)

U.S.A.

HCJB-ANDEX, P.O. Box 39800, Colorado Springs, CO 80949-9800, U.S.A.

If you live anywhere else: Send \$6.50 (U.S. dollars only) to HCJB-ANDEX, P.O. Box 39800, Colorado Springs, CO 80949-9800, U.S.A. Please make checks/money orders payable to HCJB-ANDEX and allow eight weeks for processing.