

Joakim Weckström



**JOAKIM WECKSTRÖM, 16 YEARS
RAASEPORI, FINLAND**

I got the first spark to my DX-listening hobby when I was 12 by checking my grandfather's portable world band radio and I heard some short-wave stations. I tried to recognise the different languages and I wondered how it was possible that Asian radio stations can be heard so far away.

Shortly after, I bought an FM radio, which at first had only a random wire as the antenna. In summer 2021, I was surprised by strong sporadic E propagation; tuning along the FM band in car radio I heard Romanian stations. That kind of propagation was still a complete mystery to me at that time.

When checking national TV's text TV pages, I found the page for Finnish DX Association with contact details. From there I got more information and details on how to purchase an effective FM antenna: a Yagi. So, I was well prepared for summer 2022.

Later, I also purchased NAD's FM tuner and soon after that, Körner 9.3 antenna. The first proper week for sporadic E propagation in 2023 was the one starting on 6 June, when I caught Libya and Tunisia. On 13 June, I heard my record distant station so far: Jeddah FM on 93.4&94.6 MHz from Saudi Arabia. Other than those, summer 2023 was rather modest for sporadic E.

Early in the summer I gathered information that there were still some analogue TV transmitters in operation. During Es skip, I tried to see if something could be viewed and, in my LED TV, I could see colour images from Russia and Kazakhstan. The best TV catch for me was Afghanistan on channel E2.

In winter 2021-22 I got interested also in medium wave DXing and I rolled out a 600 metre long wire. A bit later I put up a 700 metre Beverage to direction 300°. It was very good for North American stations and with the back lobe, I could also hear a lot of Asia.

Around the same time, I also purchased my first SDR: RSPDX. It opened virtually another new world: I was no longer forced to stay up in the deepest night to hear Transatlantic medium wave stations. I then heard that Airspy was also good and bought Airspy HF+, which I noticed was even better for medium wave reception.

I am also interested in DRM and DAB+ transmissions. I have received DRM transmissions with audio on MW from India, as well as others. DAB+ stations I have managed to catch from Norway, Poland, Denmark etc.

DX-listening has become my favourite hobby. Through it, I have learnt to understand the world better and discovered a lot about various technical matters. Another important part of the hobby is the meetings with other hobbyists, where there is a great team spirit and I gain guidance from them. I find the World Radio TV Handbook important for my hobby and I am glad that it continues to be published.

Glenn Hauser

Thanks for featuring me in this edition. I have been a WRTH user since 1958, and through the years pleased to have been a contributor!

I got my start in DXing on TV. As our family in Santa Rosa, New Mexico had just obtained our first TV set with antenna on the roof, the closest stations in Albu-

querque were over 100 miles away. In the summer, sporadic E would often bring in much further stations on the lower channels.

As for radio, we had a 1941 Philco console with SW bands, but at first I was paying more attention to MW. Meanwhile we moved to Oklahoma City. Finally got a Hallcrafters S38-E as my first SW radio for real.

Sweden Calling DXers even mailed out weekly scripts to contributors. Later I would be heard on SCDX with items from Review of International Broadcasting, a magazine I started, to concentrate on programming rather than just DXing.

Over the years I also participated in other shows: DX/SWL Digest on Radio Canada International, Austrian SW Panorama, DX Jukebox on Radio Nederland, also in Spanish on Espacio Diexista/Radio Enlace and elsewhere as Mundo Radial. With a new host, DXJB became Media Network, where my monthly DX reports were not wanted.

Good! Since that inspired me to make my own weekly half-hour program, World of Radio, which has survived long past Media Network, and indeed, RN itself, surpassing its 2200th edition in 2023. I also produced Continent of Media, not just about SW, within North America.

First SW station broadcasting WOR was WRNO, New Orleans, thanks to Joe Costello. Other stations were added and subtracted through the years, including WWRB, WHRI, WWCR, WTWW; currently WRMI and WBCQ with multiple airtimes each week. I am especially grateful to Jeff White and Allan Weiner for always keeping me on their SW air.

Besides mailing RIB on paper, added DX Listening Digest for different focus. With the internet age, these became online only: instantaneous delivery, no more affixing address labels and stamps!

I have always favored exchanging DX info widely and freely, always with due credit.

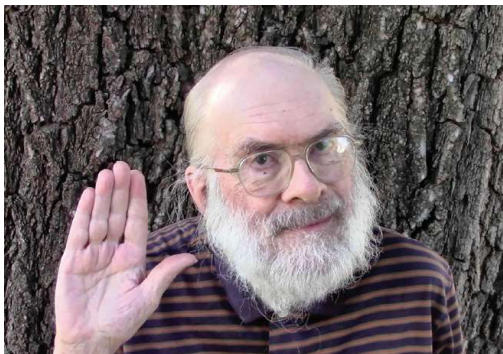
I edited Listeners Notebook for NASWA FRENEX, and another column, Hunting Harmonics with Hauser. DX info I was collecting became more broadly available in monthly columns for Popular Electronics, and later, Monitoring Times.

Professionally, I have always worked in radio; such as the American Forces Thailand Network. Classical music has always been primary for me, first at KHFM Albuquerque, then as music director for WUOT, Knoxville, also announcing, and producing an eclectic program, Unbridled. That included some recordings off SW broadcasts. Language study and SWling served me well as a classical music announcer. I “retired” early from that so I could concentrate on DX reporting and travel, but settled in Enid, Oklahoma.

I enjoy wordplay, partly to enliven reports of DX info. “Hauserisms” include respelling words with x whenever fonetikaly apropos. If “connexion” be an acceptable alternative in Britain, why not “correxion”? I try to use the prefix “sesqui-” whenever possible.

I create radio countries as needed, such as Colombizuela, or Venezombia, to account for the 4940 station’s uncertain location. I refuse to recognize China’s dominion over outlying areas such as Tibet, East Turkistan.

A pet peeve: reporting all times as UTC rather than just UT. If accuracy be not to the milli- or micro-second, calling it “Coordinated” implies unwarranted precision.



GLENN HAUSER

I discourage over-specialization, with almost daily all-band log reports: whatever monitored, LW, MW, SW; FM, TV; utility, broadcast, amateur, webcasts.

Access to much of my output, sound and text via:

<http://www.worldofradio.com>

<https://www.archive.org>

in the DLARC section