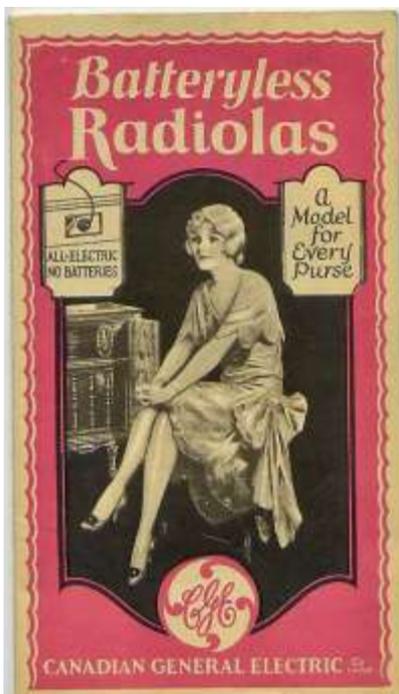


The Carolina Antenna

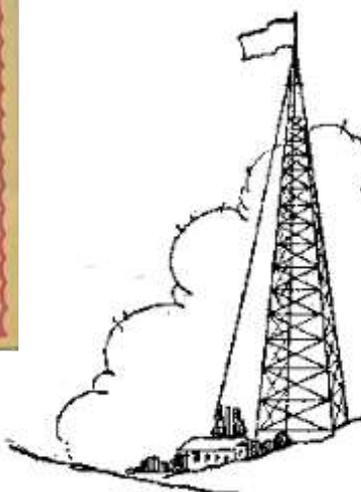
SUMMER 2004

VOLUME #10

ISSUE #2



CAROLINAS
CHAPTER
OF THE
ANTIQUE
WIRELESS
ASSOCIATION





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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



BY RON
LAWRENCE,
KC4YOY
CC-AWA
PRESIDENT

I'm sitting at the computer writing this on Sunday morning the day after the CC-AWA Annual Conference. What a great 3 days, when I got home Saturday afternoon I was as tired as I think I have ever been, but it was fun and we will do it again. I'm not going to do a full report here since we've been promised a double page spread in the next OTB for a full meet report.

On Thursday afternoon we had our annual CC-AWA membership meeting, the main topic of discussion was club finances. The cost of doing antique radio club "business" is going up every year. With the advances of PC and computerizing our clubs database we can generate graphs to help make it easy to see what's going on. The graph shows two converging lines, the one repre-

senting club bank account is going down slowly, and the one showing club expenses is climbing, slowly. The problem is, if something is not done soon the two lines are going to cross and then we're going to have a problem.

Something we have done since we formed the club is to give all dues paying members free admission to the Annual Charlotte Conference. While we only have about 45 members, if all of them took advantage of this it would mean \$450 of lost income. So this benefit is most likely going to end with this years meet. It was also suggested that clubs at \$10 are too cheap. The Board of Directors will be discussing this at our next meeting, along with updating our By-Laws.

Several vendors talked to me Friday and Saturday of the meet saying that we should go up on the vendor space rental, there are two sides to this, one is that the vendors are making money off of the event and should be willing to pay more, the other side is it's the vendors that most of the attendees come to see and if vendor space rental is too much the vendors won't be there.

This is going to require a lot of research.

The bottom line is if you enjoy what the club does, hosts a world class annual conference, publish a really nice newsletter, hosts four mini/swap meets each year, and also publish a web page, the money to do it is going to have to come from somewhere.

The next event of the CC-AWA calendar is our Spring Swap Meet at Spencer Shops, the North Carolina Transportation Museum, on Saturday May 8th. As always admission is FREE, Vendor set-up is only \$5. Remember, these are Saturday morning events that start early, between 7 & 8 AM and are all done before noon. Don't show up at 11 o'clock and expect to see anything except folks packing up. That's just the way these things work. You can find detailed driving directions to this and info on all CC-AWA events by visiting our web page at -

<http://www.cc-awa.org>.

I'm like to thank Judy and Barker Edwards for a heroic effort to produce that latest issue of our newsletter, "The Carolina Antenna". Judy has been very sick and has spent weeks in the hospital in the last several months, but she insisted on working on the newsletter while still confined to the bed, and instructing Barker on how to get the printing done properly. Judy and Barker along with Laura Carter make up our crack newsletter committee. Thanks for a GREAT job guys.

CC-AWA EVENT SCHEDULE

All CC-AWA swap meets listed below take place on Saturday mornings from 8 AM to 12 noon. Admission is always free.

2004

FALL SWAP MEET

October 23, 2004

City Lake Park
Jamestown NC

CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 18, 2004

2005

WINTER SWAP MEET

January 29, 2005

Caughman Park
Columbia SC

29TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

March 24-26, 2005

Charlotte NC

SUMMER SWAP MEET

May 7, 2005

Valdese NC

FALL SWAP MEET

October 22, 2005

Jamestown NC

CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 17, 2005

2006

30TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

March 25-27, 2006

Charlotte NC

EDITOR'S NOTE
BARKER EDWARDS

In the last two issues of *the Carolina Antenna* we have been running an article about Major Howard Armstrong testifying in front of the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee in 1943. So far we have run the first two of the three-part series. I am sorry to say that we have been unable to obtain the last and third part of the series. We will make every effort to find it and bring it to you in a future issue.

CHARLOTTE SPRING
MEET REPORT

The 28th Annual "Spring Meet in the Carolinas", the annual conference of the Carolinas Chapter of the Antique Wireless Association took place Thursday, Saturday March 25 -26-27, 2004 at the Sheraton Charlotte Airport Hotel. This was the tenth year at the Sheraton for the Charlotte Conference and it continues to be an outstanding site for a radio meet. Again this year the "radio meets gods" smiled on us and we had fantastic spring weather. There were 329 registered attendees not including spouses and other family members.

There were 141 flea market spaces sold. The Friday afternoon Old Equipment Auction had 110 lots with just over \$6,000.00 in total sales. Again this year this was a pure auction in that all the items submitted were by conference attendees, there were no large estate lots in the auction.



Things kicked off at 12noon on Thursday with CC-AWA member Kirk Cline hosting a tube collectors forum, this was followed with Jim Barnard showing and telling all about his passion for collecting Zenith transistor radios. Jim had on display 50 Zenith transistor sets.



Next came long time CC-AWA member Dr. Dennis Osborne and a very interesting talk about the RCA/Riders Chanalyst, what Dennis claims to be "the greatest advance ever made in the history of servicing instruments", and he had the data to back it up.



Next came an interesting panel discussion on "Preservation vs. Restoration" lead by Paul Farmer. There were many interesting questions, answers & opinions passed back and forth with the audience.



Wrapping up the afternoon program session was the CC-AWA annual membership meeting. One of the main topics discussed were the rising costs of running a radio club and hosting a "national level" radio conference. The members in attendance agreed that it would be necessary to increase both dues and conference fees in the future.

Following the close of the membership meeting we boarded the hotel shuttle bus and several private cars to journey to the Open Kitchen for a fine dinner of Italian food.



The first day of the conference was wrapped up with a great talk by Dr. Harold Cones about his new books on Zenith and the process of doing the research for the books. Dr. Cones really had everyone in the palm of his hand for almost 2 hours. Very interesting.



Friday morning was a bright and sunny Carolina spring day and there were several hundred radio collectors waiting patiently for our 8AM traditional "LeManns Start". In case you haven't attended the Charlotte

Conference before, our "LeManns Start" requires that EVERYONE must be out of the flea market area before anyone is allowed to enter. There is no buying, selling or displaying of merchandise before the 8AM start time.

As always the first few hours things moved at a furious pace, there were lots of radios seen being carried past the registration tent on the way to their new owners cars and trucks.

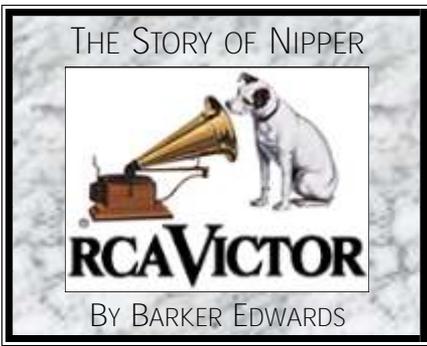


The flea market is followed by the Old Equipment Auction in the afternoon and the annual banquet on Friday evening, which is wrapped up with an open house in the Contest room to view the entries in the Old Equipment Contest and socialize for a while.



Saturday morning the great spring time weather continued for the second flea market session. On Saturday we also have our special Saturday only admission of just \$5 and "Radio Rescue" where the public is encouraged to bring their old radios out for our experts to identify and offer their opinions as

(Continued on back outside cover)



Nipper is one of the best-known advertising trademarks that has ever been produced. He got the name Nipper because of his tendency to nip the backs of visitors' ankles. Though not a thoroughbred, Nipper had plenty of bull terrier and a trace of fox terrier in him. He never hesitated to take on another dog in a fight, and had a fondness for chasing the pheasants!

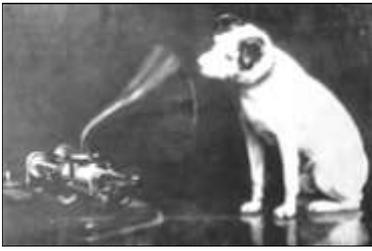
He was found as a stray in 1884 and lived in Bristol, England with his master, Mark Barraud, a theater stage set painter. When Mark died destitute in 1887, Nipper was taken to Liverpool, England by Mark's younger brother Francis also a struggling artistic painter. Eventually Nipper would spend his latter years with his first owner's widow, who took him to live with her in Kingston-upon-Thames in Surrey, England. Nipper passed away in September of 1895 and was buried in a garden at Kingston-upon-Thames, in an area that is now the rear lot of the Lloyds Bank on Clarence Street. There is a plaque on the wall at the bank stating this.

While living with Francis Barraud in Liverpool, Nipper discovered the phonograph, in Francis's photographic studio. Nipper would listen attentively to the old phonograph, and Francis "often noticed how puzzled he was to make out where the voice came from". This scene must have been indelibly printed in Francis's brain, for it was three years after Nipper died that he committed it to canvas. In 1898 Barraud completed the painting of Nipper and registered it February 11, 1899 as "Dog looking at and listening to a Phonograph". Francis then decided to rename the painting "His Master's Voice" and tried to exhibit it at the Royal Academy, but was turned down. He had no luck in trying to get some of the magazines to print it. He was told "No one would know what the dog was doing" was given as the reason!

Since the phonograph that Francis Barraud used in the original painting was an Edison-Bell cylinder machine, he decided to take the painting to the Edison Bell Company, and see if they were interested in buying it. The Edison Bell Company was not interested, and they told Francis that "Dogs do not listen to phonographs." After his visit to the Edison Company, Francis was given the advice to repaint the horn from black to gold, as this would brighten the painting up and could possibly help him sale it. With this in mind, he visited the home of the



Only known picture of Nipper



The original painting with an Edison-Bell phonograph

newly formed Gramophone Company in the summer of 1899 with a photograph of his painting and a request to borrow a brass horn. Mr. Barry Owen, manager of the Company talked with Francis Barraud about his painting and asked if the painting was for sale and if Francis could change the phonograph in the painting to their own make, a Gramophone. Francis told him that the painting was for sale and that he could make the changes if they would let me have a machine to paint from.

On September 15, 1899, the Gramophone Company sent Francis a letter making him a formal offer of £50 for the painting and a further £50 for the full copyrights which he accepted. The deal was confirmed on October 4, 1899 when a representative from the Gramophone Company saw the revised painting for the first time. The Gramophone Company used the painting for the first time the following year on the Company's Record Supplement for January 1900 and Nipper, the Gramophone Dog, made his first appearance on British 'His Master's Voice' record label in 1909. The painting and title were finally registered as a trademark until 1910.

It was also in 1900 that a seemingly innocuous request led to the eventual disappearance of "His Master's Voice" as a label trademark. Emile Berliner, the U.S. inventor of the gramophone, born in Germany, asked Barry Owen to assign him the copyright of "His Master's Voice" for America. Owen agreed, as he did in 1904 to a similar request from Japan. Emile Berliner brought the painting to the United States, where it was used as his logo, until it was acquired by his successor in America, Eldridge Johnson, who formed the Victor Talking Machine Company, and became the owner of what would become the most famous trademark in the world, and make Nipper the most famous dog in the world. The U S trademark registration (No. 34,690) for The "His Master's Voice" trademark was granted to Emile Berliner on July 10, 1900. After years of legal struggles with outside agents, Johnson and Berliner joined their American interests in 1901 and the Victor Talking Machine Company was incorporated. It was agreed that Victor would gain marketing rights to America and Japan, while the Gramophone Company of England would provide for Europe and Asia. Victor became synonymous with quality recording worldwide, and was finally acquired by RCA in 1929. The Gramophone Company merged with the Columbia Gramophone Company in 1931 and became EMI (Electric and Musical Industries).

Meanwhile Francis Barraud spent much of the rest of his working life painting 24 exact copies of his

FOLK ART, TRAMP ART OR PRISON ART?

BY ROBERT LOZIER

original, as commissioned by The Gramophone Company. He produced the copy in precisely the same way he created the original, by painting the dog with the Edison cylinder phonograph and then painting over it with the Gramophone. It is rumored that if you look at the original at just the right angle you can see traces of the cylinder machine beneath.



*Francis Barraud painting 1 of 24 copies
of "His Master's Voice"*

Following his death in 1924, other artists carried on the tradition until the end of the decade. The "His Master's Voice" painting is now displayed at EMI Music's Gloucester Place headquarters. One replica is on display at the Capitol Records Building in Hollywood, California.



"His Master's Voice"

Most of us are caught up in the rat race with no clue how to get out without financial ruin. It seems that there was a time when folks had more quiet time to spend on arts and crafts for pleasure. If you look back into magazines like *Popular Mechanics* or *Popular Science* of the 1920's and even into the 1960's, you will always see articles on how to build some sort of ships model, airplane, bird feeder or knick knack shelf using simple shop tools. Often these projects called for unorthodox materials or simply cast-off stuff. On the high seas and in prisons you see the use of unorthodox materials taken to unimagined extremes...

So it is that even the humble matchstick came to be a building material for thousands of projects. A little Web searching will find fantastic matchstick creations like the 8 or 10 foot high exact replica of the great cathedral in Cologne, Germany; full sized violins and guitars. On a local scale, I found a three mast sailing ship made of the 'lowly lumber' recently at the local flea market. So I guess it was inevitable that sooner or later I would come across a radio covered in matchsticks.

PRISON ART?

I know nothing about the set except that it must have been made sometime in the mid 50's to



early 60's. The radio is built from a kit and the standard styrene cabinet is completely covered in burnt matchsticks.



It could have been prisoner tramp art but I'm thinking most prisons of that time would not have permitted a radio in a cell. But the fact that the radio is a kit set could have fit into an inmate teaching program. Also note that the speaker opening is very small and an earphone jack is fitted on the left side out of view. Maybe a trustee inmate could have used the radio without having to give the 'privilege' of hearing the set to other inmates. Or is this just the evening tinkering of some factory worker at a card table in the living room as he and the family watched I Love Lucy or the Garry Moore Show? What's your thought?

Well I thought that the set was interesting enough to put on display at the MAARC meet in Beltsville, MD. I wrote a paragraph on the set and put in the statement "I bet you

don't have anything like it." So within an hour, Kirk Cline and Bruce Hutchins were passing by to tell me that Bruce was in the process of fixing up two radios with matchstick covered cabinets for another Carolina collector, Lew Magrish! Man! What were the odds?

I just had to know what these sets looked like and Kirk was e-mailing me pictures just two days later. Lew followed up with more pictures a few days later....



TRAMP ART?

As you can see this rather boxy little set shows someone with a great deal of patience and high level of craftsmanship but maybe not so much artistic imagination. The chassis appears to be salvaged from a late 40's set that probably had a Bakelite chassis that got smashed. I count about 2,400 burnt matchsticks in this creation. Impressive!





FOLK ART?

The second of Lew's sets is wild in every way! Now here we see someone with real artistic imagination to go along with tremendous patience but maybe not as much skill as a craftsman. The precision of execution is just not there.... But I'm not complaining....

Not only does the builder apply a streamline theme to the cabinet form, but notice that strips of darker wood are used to accentuate the curves and radials and to outline the entire cabinet. While my set and Lew's other set use burnt matchsticks, apparently this person did not use them in making this set.



It is not as obvious as to the origin of the radio chassis in this set. If I had to guess, I'd say it came from one of the little steel cabinet sets you could buy for about \$9.00 just before WW-II

So there are at least three matchstick radios here in the Carolinas.... Lew regards his radios as having something to do with the Arts & Crafts movement of the early

20th. Century and with that in mind has located another interesting set that definitely fits the Folk Art theme even though matchsticks just stayed in the ashtray or burned in the stove while it was being built.

MORE FOLK ART?



Another neat set done by someone that was trying to turn out a Folk Art kind of cabinet; but again, did not show the highest levels of craftsmanship. The base of the cabinet is and strips of cigar box lumber with some parts stained a darker color to provide contrast. Again the chassis appears to be salvage of a generic All American Five.

Thanks Lew for sharing your sets with us.... Lets hope that there are more examples out there similar to these just waiting to be collected.



RADIO HISTORY IN NORTH CAROLINA



In North Carolina, radio broadcasting began in March 1922 with WLAC at N.C. State College. WBT in Charlotte and other stations in Asheville and Raleigh followed shortly thereafter.

Interest in the technical aspects rather than programming and service characterized the early years in North Carolina. The number of stations remained small with low power and irregular programming until the late 1920s. By then, radio stations increased power and improved facilities. Network affiliates became an important factor in station programming. Advertising developed slowly.

In the 1930s, programming became more elaborate and the number of stations increased gradually:

- Charlotte, NC-WBT (1922) and WHVN (1928)
- Raleigh, NC-WPTF (1924)
- Asheville, NC-WWNC (1927)
- Winston-Salem, NC-WSJS (1930)
- Gastonia/Charlotte, NC-WSOC (1933)
- Durham, NC - WDNC (1934)
- Elizabeth City, NC - WCNC (1939)

By the 1940s, twenty-five stations were broadcasting in North Carolina, and a similar number were under construction with licenses for operation. World War II (1941-'45) witnessed a shortage of personnel and equipment across the country. North Carolina was no exception. But public demand for information about the war focused attention on news. Expanding profits during World War II were a factor in the large post-war increase in the number of stations.

FM (frequency modulation) was introduced in North Carolina during this period and grew enormously after World War II. This rapid growth resulted in greater competition for audiences and advertising and a corresponding decline in profits. Radio station construction slowed. These and other events were precursors of the television era in the late 1940s and early 1950s.

Radio station licenses increased in the 1960s and 1970s. By 1992, there were 391 radio stations in North Carolina (229 AM and 162 FM).

-University of North Carolina School of Journalism & Mass Communications (<http://www.unc.edu/~bsemonch/radio.html>)



JUST WHAT DO THOSE LOCAL CALL LETTERS STAND FOR?

Scan the dial at the top of any hour and you are certain to get a taste of the aural alphabet soup known as radio call letters. In the United States, AM and FM stations, with a few notable exceptions, begin with a "K" west of the Mississippi River and a "W" to the east. The other letters are up to the individual stations. Similar to personalized license plates, stations can pay the FCC for a call sign of their choosing. Here's the story behind some of the Raleigh-Durham area call signs, past and present. Many serve as subtle reminders of a station's past formats, ownership or even the history of the region.

- **WAFR** *Africa*-call letters of NCCU's first radio station, which was also the first black public radio station in the United States.
- **WARR** *Warrenton*-represents the first four letters of the station's location and city of license.
- **WAUG** *St. Augustine's College*-partial acronym of the school which owns the station.
- **WAZZ** *Easy*-Fuquay-Varina's 103.9 FM was known as "Easy 103.9" with an easy listening format under these calls in the late 1980s.
- **WBAG** *Burlington & Graham*-the city of license and nearby Alamance County seat, both of which are served by the station.
- **WBBB** *We're Building a Better Burlington*-these call letters once belonged to Burlington's first radio station, now WPCM 920 AM. The current WBBB, at 96.1, has no connection with the city 45 miles west of Raleigh. Owner Curtis Media stuck this call sign on 96.1 FM when they shuffled several of their radio formats around in 1998.
- **WBIG** *We Believe In Greensboro*-these call letters belonged to Greensboro's first radio station which signed on in 1925. When the station went off the air in 1986, 102.1 FM out of Redisville briefly assumed them under a country format. The letters now reside north of here in the District of Columbia.
- **WBOB** *Bob*-for one week in April 2004, 93.3 FM in Washington, NC, had these calls which represented their handle.
- **WBTM** *World's Best Tobacco Market*-these call letters represent Danville, Virginia's one-time tobacco supremacy.
- **WCAS** *Class*-handle of an AC station which used to operate here, now known as WFXX.
- **WCCE** *We're Campbell for Christian Education*-intended to describe the mission of Campbell University, the station's owner.
- **WCEC** *We Cover East Carolina*-an acronym describing the coverage of a now-defunct Rocky Mount AM station, whose FM side is today's WTRG "Oldies 100.7".
- **WCHL** *Where Chapel Hill*

- Listens*-acronym representing a former slogan for the station that also incorporates its city of license.
- **WCKB** *Where Carolina Keeps Building, Where Christians Keep Believing*-the former was used when the Dunn station signed on in 1946; the latter, following its shift to a Southern gospel format.
 - **WCPE** (*trick question!*)-though many think this classical station's call letters represent composer Carl Phillip Emmanuel Bach, they actually stand for nothing. The station just did not have the extra money to apply for specific calls.
 - **WCPS** *Coastal Plains Station*-refers to the region in which city of license Tarboro is located.
 - **WDBS** *Duke Broadcasting Service*-former sponsor of the station when Duke University operated it. WDBS is now known as WFXC.
 - **WDCC** *Department of Community Colleges*-represents state agency overseeing community colleges. This station, based at Central Carolina Community College in Sanford, was the first to operate from a North Carolina community college campus.
 - **WDCG** *Durham's Country Giant*-when WDNC-FM became a country station in 1974, it assumed these call letters. The station is today CHR G-105, but the calls remain, reminding radio enthusiasts of this station's past.
 - **WDNZ, WDNC**-simulcast of Durham's WDNC with call letters

roughly to match

- **WDTF** *Dedicated To Family*-described the format of this former Christian station. Also bore a striking resemblance to owner Curtis Media's flagship AM WPTF. The station is now WDNZ.
- **WDUR and WDNC** *Durham, North Carolina*-the city of license for both stations.
- **WDWG** *Dog*-the handle of this country station.
- **WERO** *Arrow* -this station once had an "all rock and roll oldies" (A.R.R.O) format, and was called "Arrow 93.3".
- **WESQ** *Wesleyan*-derivation of North Carolina Wesleyan College, which started the station.
- **WETC** *We Entertain Tobacco* Country-reference to the prominent cash crop of North Carolina at the time.
- **WEWO** *Wonderful Environment, Wonderful Opportunity*-interesting slogan for the current WFLB while a Laurinburg FM.
- **WFJA** *Frank James Abbott*-the late founder/owner of this Sanford station.
- **WFTC** *World's Finest Tobacco City*-another set of tobacco-era call letters, these referring to Kinston, NC's chief industry.
- **WFTK** *Working For The King, Fifty Thousand (K) Watts*-describes both the format and the daytime power of this Christian station.

- **WFVG** *Watch Fuquay Varina Grow*-represented the communities of Fuquay Springs and Varina that this station served. The two towns merged as Fuquay-Varina in the 1960s.
- **WFXC & WFXK** *Foxy*-variations on the handle of this station.
- **WGBR** *Goldsboro*-describes the station's city of license.
- **WHEV** *Henry E. Vail*-former owner of the Garner station now known as WRTG.
- **WHHT** *H. H. Toms*-former owner of a Durham station once heard at 1580 and later 1590 AM before signing off the air in 1951.
- **WHLF** *Halifax*-the station is located in Halifax County, Virginia.
- **WHNC** *Henderson, North Carolina*-the station's city of license.
- **WHPE** *High Point Enterprise, Where His Praises Echo*-station was once owned by the High Point Enterprise newspaper, but is now owned by the Bible Broadcasting Network, which found a more-appropriate meaning for the call sign.
- **WICE** *Ice*-"Cool"-is the handle of the station, and ice definitely fits that description.
- **WITN** *Washington*-variation of the station's city of license, Washington, NC. The call letters are still in use on TV channel 7 in Eastern North Carolina.
- **WJLC** *JLC Properties*-the former owner of these stations (WJLC has occupied three spots on the dial, 97.5, 95.3 and 98.3).
- **WKIX and WKXU** *Kicks*-slogan associated with a legendary Top 40 outlet, later associated with the country format. The call sign WKIX has been at four separate spots on the dial since its inception to the area in 1959, while WKXU recently found a new home on the dial when 101.1 FM became talk WZTK.
- **WKNC** *Wolfpack*-North Carolina-derivative of the university's mascot.
- **WKNS** *Kinston, North Carolina*-represents this station's city of license.
- **WKRX and WRXO** *Roxboro, North Carolina*-the stations' city of license.
- **WKSI** *"Kiss"*-former call letters of Greensboro's 98.7 FM, which was once known as "98.7 Kiss FM", and later "98.7 Kiss Country". Now known as WOZN-FM
- **WKTC** *Katie Country*-handle of a station which used to operate here, now known as WYMY.
- **WKVE** *K-Love*-this Semora-licensed station is an affiliate of K-Love Christian Music Network, and the WKVE calls are a derivation of the network's name.
- **WLHC** *Life in the Heart of Carolina*-an acronym for the station's slogan.
- **WLLE** *Willie*-handle of this R&B station now known as WDNZ.
- **WMFR** *We Make Furniture*

Right-was located in High Point, the furniture capital of the world.

- **WNAO** *News and Observer*-represented the newspaper which founded and owned the stations now known as WBBB and WRBZ.
- **WNBR** *News and Business Radio*-present-day WCRY in Fuquay-Varina was known by these call letters briefly when they aired a business news format.
- **WNOH** *N.O. Harris*-the founder of the station, which is now known as WCLY. The same family which owns present-day Harris Beer Distributors in Raleigh.
- **WNCT** *North Carolina Television*-once co-owned with WNCT-TV, one of the state's earliest TV stations.
- **WNCU** *North Carolina Central University*-represents the station's owner, North Carolina Central University. The station had also unsuccessfully applied for WNCC.
- **WNND and WWND** *The Wind*-the "wind" handle originated in this area with Fuquay-Varina's former WNND, 103.9 FM, which brought the smooth jazz format to the Raleigh area. The station dropped the handle and call letters in 1995 before dropping the jazz format the next year. Curtis Media copied the smooth jazz format and the "wind" handle at 102.9 FM in 1998 under the calls WWND. They gave the handle, format and call sign up in early 2001.
- **WOXF** *Oxford*-the station's city of license and location. Now

known as WCBQ.

- **WOZN** *"Zone"*-the station's handle is "98-7 The Zone".
- **WPCM** *We Play Country Music, We Play Carolina's Music*-former call letters of the country station now known as WKXU. These call letters, now on Burlington's 920 AM, currently give reference to the beach music heard here and made popular along the Carolina coast.
- **WPJL** *We Proclaim Jesus Lord*-represents the mission of this Christian station.
- **WPTF** *We Protect The Family*-the slogan of the former Durham Life Insurance Company, which owned the station from 1925-1991. The station shared the call letters with the current WQDR from 1947-1973 and with WRDC-TV 28 from 1977-1991.
- **WPWZ** *Power*-the handle of this urban station.
- **WPXX** *Picks*-referenced the handle of this station before it became WKVE.
- **WPYB** *We Promote Your Business*-the station's slogan.
- **WQDR** *Quadrophonic Rock*-an unsuccessful sound transmission system used by this former rock outlet which employed four channels of audio instead of the two used with stereo. When the station switched from it's critically acclaimed album rock format to country in 1984, rock fans said the call letters really stood for "We Quit Doing Rock."

- **WQMG** *Quality Music for Greensboro*-apparently a former slogan.
- **WRAL and WRNC** *Raleigh or Raleigh, North Carolina*-the stations' city of license. The WRNC calls now belong to an expanded band AM station in Warner-Robbins, Georgia.
- **WRBX and WKBX**-original owner Stuart Epperson owned WKBX 1500 AM in Winston-Salem and wanted similar calls for his new station. WRBX is now W RTP-AM.
- **WRBZ** *Raleigh's Buzz*-represents the handle of this station.
- **WRCO** *Wynne Radio Company*-in 1924, William A. Wynne's Raleigh-based radio company started what is now WPTF and adopted call letters to reflect the company name.
- **WRDT** *Raleigh Durham's Talk*-represented a short-lived Christian talk format at this dial position, now known as WDNZ.
- **WRDU** *Raleigh-Durham*-reference the metro area served by the station and the FAA code for the local airport, Raleigh-Durham International. These call letters once belonged to local television station WRDC, channel 28, from its sign on in 1968 through 1977.
- **WREV**-Reidsville-City of license of the station at 102.1 FM, now WJMH.
- **WRQM** *Rocky Mount*-derivation of the station's city of license.
- **WRSN** *Raleigh's Sunny*-represents station's handle, adopted in 1996 when the former WZZU dumped classic rock for soft adult contemporary. Often criticized when they played classic rock, they format change to soft rock did not make any long-time listeners happy, especially when the popular syndicated "John Boy and Billy" was without a local outlet for a short time after the switch. Former listeners said derisively that the new letters stood for "We Really Stink Now"
- **W RTP and W RTG** *Research Triangle Park*-refers to area served by these stations
- **WSHA** *Shaw University*-represents the station's owner, Shaw University.
- **WSSB** *Whisbee*-Handle this station used in the Top 40 days of memorable call letters, though it's unclear whether the call letters or the handle came first.
- **WSTS** *Winning Souls Through Song*-the meaning of the call letters for the Southern Gospel station, though it is doubtful if this acronym was in use during the station's Laurinburg days.
- **W TIK** *Where Tobacco Is King*-reference to Durham's former status as a major tobacco processing center.
- **W TCD** *Triangle's CD*-represented the handle of this NAC/Smooth Jazz station, when it was CD-103.9. This was a fidelity-intensive format, so the handle made reference to compact discs, known for their exact replication

of audio. WTCB is now black gospel WNNL.

- **WTEB** *Where Tomorrow's Education Begins*-the parent station of Public Radio East is located on the campus of Craven Community College in New Bern, so this acronym plugs the school.
- **WTRG** *Triangle or Triangle Radio Gold*-the first refers to the region served by this station; the second is a reported acronym which may have also been used.
- **WTSB** *Triangle Sports Broadcasters*-named for the licensee of this Selma station. These same call letters once belonged to a now silent station in Lumberton, NC, where they stood for "Where Tobacco Sells Best".
- **WUNC** *University of North Carolina*-station is owned by the University of North Carolina Board of Governors.
- **WVOT** *Voice of Tobacco*-the current WRDU-FM began life as WVOT-FM in Wilson, a major tobacco market in eastern North Carolina to this day.
- **WVTF** *Virginia Tech Foundation*-name of the non-profit group running Virginia Tech's public radio outlet.
- **WXJC** *The "Cross" of Jesus Christ*-nifty set of call letters that belonged to Calvary Satellite Radio's Raleigh station from 2001-2002; the "X" represents the cross. The station is now known as WAJC.
- **WYFL** *Where You'll Find Love*-references the station's

Christian format.

- **WYLT** *Lite*-described the format of this station when it was lite A/C.
- **WYRN** *We're Your Radio Neighbor*-an acronym reflecting a former slogan.
- **WYYD** *Wide*-chosen to describe the sound quality available with quadraphonic sound, an unsuccessful form of FM stereo using four channels instead of two. Now known as WBBB
- **WXDU and WDUK** *Duke University*-both acronyms represent the school in Durham. WDUK, a commercial station not affiliated with Duke, merged with WTIK in 1951. WXDU is Duke's Campus station.
- **WZTK** *The New Zeitgeist of Talk*-do not know if this is the official meaning of this new talker's call letters, but on day one of "FM Talk 101.1", one of the morning personalities said this is the meaning behind "ZTK". *Zeitgeist* is a German word that means the spirit of the time or the spirit characteristic of an age or generation.



- **WZZU** *Zoo*-this station went

(Charlotte Spring Meet - continued from page 4)

to the value of the piece and afterwards the individual can have their item sold in our "Radio Rescue Auction". At about 7AM on Saturday morning I was a phone guest on Don Russell's morning show on pioneer station WBT talking about the conference and "Radio Rescue". I met about ten people that attended the conference and brought radios for "Radio Rescue" just because they heard to radio show. Many thanks to WBT for their support on this. Gary Carter WA4IAM hosted the first of what we plan to be an annual event at 9AM the Vintage Amateur Radio Forum. About a dozen guys took part in a lively discussion. Saturday morning is always busy, we also had the final judging of the old equipment contest entries.

The Radio Rescue auction which also includes items submitted by our flea market vendors, netted more than \$115.00 for the club in proceeds for item that were donated to the auction with the money going to the club.

The conference wrapped up early in the afternoon following the annual members luncheon. This may not have been the biggest Charlotte meet, but it was close and was without a doubt one of the best.

We're already working on the 2005 Conference that will take place on Easter weekend, March, 24-25-26. See ya there.

Ron Lawrence,
CC-AWA President & Conference
Chairman

