



## Programming Matters – June 2010

**Fred Waterer, 4 St. Julien Drive, St. Catharines, Ontario L2T 2G2  
(905) 687-1861**

[programming\\_matters@yahoo.ca](mailto:programming_matters@yahoo.ca)

<http://www.doghousecharlie.com>

**Also available via Facebook and Twitter**

***Programming is what we listen to on shortwave and this column presents and discusses programs. The presenters of these programs and the stations they speak from are also topics for coverage. We also delve into many other topics to see how radio impacts our lives.***

### **Quote of the Month**

" Television is a doddle, Radio terrifies me. I think it's extraordinarily difficult. Congratulations to you all who work in it - I didn't think I'd be able to! Thank you very much indeed for this magnificent award." (Acceptance speech from Sir David Attenborough who was awarded Gold for Speech Broadcaster of the Year, UK Sony Radio Awards)

### **NASB Elects New Vice-President Shortwave Listener Survey Announced 2011 NASB Annual Meeting will be in Miami and the Bahamas**

Glen Tapley of NASB member station WEWN in Birmingham, Alabama was elected the new vice president of the National Association of Shortwave Broadcasters at the 2010 NASB annual meeting in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada May 21. Shortwave station WEWN is part of the EWTN television network.

Jeff White of member station WRMI in Miami, Florida was re-elected as NASB president. Dan Elyea of member station WYFR in Okeechobee, Florida was re-elected secretary-treasurer, and Thais White of WRMI was re-elected assistant secretary-treasurer. Glen Tapley of WEWN and Adrian Peterson of Adventist World Radio were elected to new three-year terms on the NASB board of directors. The other current board members are Bill Damick of Trans World Radio, Brady Murray of WWCR and Jeff White of WRMI. Board member and former vice president Mike Adams of the Far East Broadcasting Company

(FEBC) resigned his position due to increasing demands on his time due to his involvement in humanitarian relief work and disaster response projects. The board appointed David Creel of FEBC to fill Mike's NASB board position for the remaining one year of his term.

The sponsor and host of the 2010 NASB annual meeting and the concurrent DRM USA annual meeting was Galcom International, which is based on Hamilton, Ontario. Galcom has been an associate member of NASB for a number of years. Galcom founder Allan McGuirl, his son Al Jr. and new Executive Director Tim Whitehead participated in the entire two days of meetings, which were largely organized by Galcom's Jennifer Smith. Other Galcom personnel including David Casement also took part.

On May 20, the two days of meetings began with a group tour of Crossroads Communications in Burlington, Ontario, a Christian television network. The group participated in a live syndicated television show called "100 Huntley Street," which airs throughout Canada and the United States on a number of stations, networks and cable and satellite channels. The program included a segment about Galcom International.

The next stop was a tour of Galcom's factory in Hamilton where volunteers assemble hundreds of thousands of small fix-tuned, solar-powered radio receivers set to a variety of AM, FM and shortwave frequencies of stations that broadcast Christian programming in various parts of the world. Each participant was able to program and assemble his or her own radio to the frequency(ies) of his choice, after which they were able to enjoy a barbecue lunch at the Galcom factory.

On the afternoon of May 20, the group assembled at Mohawk College in Hamilton for a three-hour DRM USA meeting moderated by Charlie Jacobson of HCJB's Global Technology Center in Elkhart, Indiana, which hosted the annual meetings three years ago. Charlie presented a PowerPoint from Adil Mina of Continental Electronics about the recent DRM Consortium meeting in Amsterdam in March and the current status of DRM (Digital Radio Mondiale) worldwide. There was a brief update on the Digital Aurora Radio Technologies (DART) DRM project in Alaska, and John Wineman of HCJB talked about the DRM Diversity Receiver project for tropical band STL use. Charlie Jacobson reviewed some of the DRM receivers that are currently available and in development, and there was a discussion of future activities of the DRM USA group.

Following the DRM USA meeting, the group went on the road again in the late afternoon and evening for a dinner at the Old Stone Inn in Niagara Falls, Ontario, which was founded as a flour mill in 1904. Dinner featured such items as Angus prime rib, eggplant parmesan, New York style cheesecake and apple blossom. But the big event of the evening was an opportunity to view world-famous Niagara Falls, which consists of the American Falls and the horseshoe-shaped

Canadian Falls which mark the border between the United States and Canada.

Friday, May 21 was the official NASB annual meeting, which took place back at Mohawk College in Hamilton. Meeting attendance was only about 40 percent of the usual annual attendance of 50-60 persons due to the economic crisis that is affecting member stations and associate member companies and organizations. Many regular attendees reported that their travel, advertising and promotion budgets had been cut due to the crisis, but most expected the situation to begin improving in the coming months and indicated that they plan to attend next year's NASB annual meeting.

The first talk on Friday morning was by Steve Canney of the Ontario DX Association. Steve was one of the founders of the ODXA in 1974, and he has been very active in the ODXA's publications and meetings over the years, including some ANARC (Association of North American Radio Clubs) conventions which it sponsored and some local DX camps in Ontario. The club still exists today, but it has no printed publication, preferring to concentrate material on its website, [www.odxa.on.ca](http://www.odxa.on.ca), which is freely accessible to all.

Unfortunately, neither the CBC nor Radio Canada International nor the CBC North shortwave service attended NASB's first annual meeting in Canada. But Toronto's shortwave station CFRX was represented. Steve Canney, on behalf of the ODXA, has been acting as the station's QSL verifier for many years now. The one-kilowatt shortwave transmitter on 6070 kHz relays commercial mediumwave station CFRB 24 hours per day.

Glen Tapley of WEWN offered meeting participants a PowerPoint of his station, which was founded by the charismatic Mother Angelica. WEWN has become a multi-transmitter 500-kilowatt (currently operating at 250 kilowatts) powerhouse station transmitting Catholic radio programming to shortwave audiences throughout Latin America, Europe, Africa and other parts of the world. The station relies on Sirius, XM Radio and Internet webcasting to reach North America. Glenn's presentation included photos of the transmitters, antennas and other technical installations, as well as shots of the beautiful mountain-top location of the transmitter site in Alabama.

The 2010 annual meeting took place as long-time attendee John White of Thomson Broadcast and Multimedia was set to retire. The NASB presented him with a plaque in honor of his many contributions to the NASB over the years. Thomson builds shortwave transmitters and other radio and television broadcast equipment at its plant in Switzerland. Thanks to John White's efforts, Thomson and the NASB will be co-sponsoring the HFCC/ASBU B10 shortwave frequency coordination conference in Zurich, Switzerland this August 2-6.

The next speaker was Dr, Jerry Plummer of NASB member station WWCR in Nashville, Tennessee. Jerry presented a very timely slideshow of images of the

recent floods in Nashville and how they affected WWCR. The station's antenna farm, which was one stop on a tour during last year's NASB annual meeting, was up to 18 feet under water. The power was out and the station's four 100-kilowatt shortwave transmitters, as well as its mediumwave transmitter, were off the air for at least three days. Jerry showed pictures of WWCR staff members surveying the flood damage in boats in the middle of their antenna field.

Jerry also unveiled the new NASB Shortwave Listener Survey, which is now online. The purpose of the survey is to gather demographic and other information about shortwave listeners in North America and around the world. Questions deal with listener preferences regarding shortwave stations, programming, receivers, DRM and much more. The NASB is requesting and encouraging all shortwave publications and websites to place a link to the survey, which will be online until May of 2011. The survey results will be announced to the public at the 2011 NASB annual meeting. The URL for links to the survey is: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/6LRVLJ7>

Dr. Adrian Peterson, international relations coordinator of Adventist World Radio, rounded up the Friday morning session with a presentation entitled "Canadian Radio Panorama," featuring photos of QSL and other radio cards of Canadian stations – especially shortwave – since 1901. Adrian, who produces the weekly DX program "Wavescan," has an extensive collection of cards from Canadian governmental, commercial and religious stations, as well as amateur and experimental stations over the years. A review of his Canadian collection is indeed a trip through Canadian radio history from the beginning through present-day.

After lunch was the NASB annual business meeting. Member stations in attendance with personal representatives or proxies were Adventist World Radio, Far East Broadcasting Company, Radio Miami International, Trans World Radio, World Christian Broadcasting, WEWN, WWCR and WYFR. Associate members Galcom International, HCJB, Thomson Broadcast and Multimedia, and VT Communications were also present.

Among the decisions made at the business meeting was the location of next year's annual meeting. It will be organized by Radio Miami International and will take place May 13-16, 2011 onboard the Royal Caribbean Majesty of the Seas cruise ship which sails from Miami to Nassau and CocoCay in the Bahamas. Delegates concluded that it would be less expensive to hold the meeting on the ship than at a hotel in Miami. The cost for the three-night cruise will be \$299.00 plus \$66.41 in taxes, per person in a double occupancy inside cabin. This price includes all meals, accommodation, transportation and entertainment. The ship has a dedicated conference center where the NASB and DRM USA meetings will be held, and Royal Caribbean will provide the meeting rooms and audiovisual equipment free of charge. More details are available by e-mail from [info@wrmi.net](mailto:info@wrmi.net), and they will soon appear on the NASB website,

www.shortwave.org.

The NASB membership also approved the sponsorship by NASB of the wireless Internet system in the meeting rooms at the HFCC/ASBU B10 Conference in Zurich, Switzerland in August. Other topics of discussion were possible improvements to the NASB website and publicity for the new NASB shortwave listener survey.

<http://www.shortwave.org/pressrelease.htm>

## **Czech Republic**

### **Radio Prague - English Broadcast Programme**

<b>Day</b>	<b>Programme</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">News</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Current Affairs</a></li><li>• <a href="#">One on One</a></li></ul>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Sport News</a></li><li>• <a href="#">News</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Current Affairs</a></li></ul>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Talking Point</a></li><li>• <a href="#">News</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Current Affairs</a></li></ul>
<b>Thursday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Czechs in History</a> / <a href="#">Czechs Today</a> / <a href="#">Spotlight</a></li><li>• <a href="#">News</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Current Affairs</a></li></ul>
<b>Friday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">Panorama</a></li><li>• <a href="#">News</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Current Affairs</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Business News</a></li></ul>
<b>Saturday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">The Arts</a></li><li>• <a href="#">News</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Magazine</a></li><li>• <a href="#">SoundCzech</a></li></ul>
<b>Sunday</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <a href="#">One on One</a></li><li>• <a href="#">News</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Mailbox</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Letter from Prague</a></li></ul>

## Day

## Programme

- [Science Journal](#) / [Czech Books](#) / [Czech Life](#)
- Magic Carpet

Every show starts with a brief bulletin of news from the Czech Republic to keep you up-to-date on events in or relating to the country. On weekdays this is followed by Current Affairs - a magazine offering an in-depth coverage of political, economic, social, cultural and sports events in the Czech Republic. The rest of the show is reserved for the following regular features:

### MONDAY

**One on One** - an informal interview show, where you have the chance to meet some of the most interesting figures in Czech life today.

**Sport News** - Radio Prague brings you the latest news in Czech sports.

### TUESDAY

**Talking Point** - a closer look at the issues - big and small - shaping the day-to-day lives of people in the Czech Republic.

### WEDNESDAY

**Czechs in History** - remarkable people and events in the history of the Czech Lands (once a month).

**Czechs Today** - a Who's Who of personalities shaping contemporary Czech society (also once a month).

These alternate with **Spotlight** - a popular feature in which we take you to different corners of the Czech Republic.

### THURSDAY

**Panorama** - our weekly foray into all things Czech; from cultural and artistic trends to social phenomena.

### FRIDAY

**Business News** - a weekly round-up of business and technology news from the Czech Republic.

**The Arts** - reports on the rich cultural life of a country in the heart of Europe.

### SATURDAY

**Magazine** - The show that starts where the news ends - we bring you the stories you might otherwise have missed.

**SoundCzech** - learn useful Czech phrases through song lyrics.

**One on One** - another chance to hear Tuesday's interview.

### SUNDAY

**Mailbox** - we reply to your letters, e-mails and phone calls and answer your questions.

**Letter from Prague** - a personal view of life in and around the Czech capital.

**Magic Carpet** - Czech world music, once a month.

**Czech Books** - a fortnightly feature looking at Czech writing today.

**Czech Life** - our series where you learn about different aspects of day-to-day life in the Czech Republic.

## Poland

## Polish Radio External Service, English Section

### Meet the Team

**Agnieszka Skieterska** - Head of Section



(listed from left to right)

**Peter Gentle**

- The Biz, Business Week; editor, [thenews.pl](http://thenews.pl)

**Slawek Szefs**

- Multi-touch

**Agnieszka Bielawska**

- Focus, Europe East

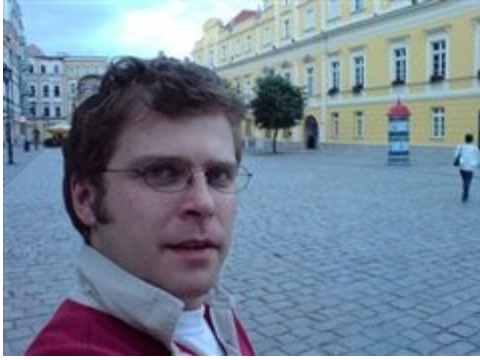
**Michal Kubicki**

- Focus



**Danuta Isler**

- Around Poland, Offside



**John Beauchamp**  
- The Krakow Panoptikon



**Magdalena Jensen**  
- Studio 15, *thenews.pl*

**Also in the section:**

**Alicja Baczynska** - Soundscapes

**Agnieszka Bednarska** - Studio

**Monika Greszta** - *thenews.pl*, Press Review

**Krystyna Kolosowska** - Kids, Europe East, Weekly Press Review

**Elzbieta Krajewska** - Focus

**United Kingdom**

**BBC Radio Wales**

**A String of Pearls**

Dewi Griffiths presents music from the golden years of entertainment, Sundays from 9 AM.

Listen online to the latest programme

Starting at 9.05am every Sunday morning, Dewi winds up the gramophone, changes the needle, and plays a selection of musical memories from the golden oldie section of the BBC gramophone library.

The golden years of entertainment cover from just after the arrival of radio in the early 1920s, to the change in popular musical tastes in the late 50s. They include the age of operetta, the fabulous years of Hollywood musicals and the swinging and sentimental sounds of the big band era.

Most of the recordings Dewi plays on the show are original LPs and 78s, but these days, musical nostalgia CDs are increasingly available.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/wales/radiowales/sites/stringofpearls/>

Dewi Griffiths profile



Dewi Griffiths

Wind up the gramophone and let Dewi Griffiths transport you back to the golden years of entertainment with Sunday morning's A String of Pearls.

Listen online to the latest programme

Dewi was born in Ton Pentre in the Rhondda Valley and spent part of his childhood living alongside the Workmen's Hall Cinema which was managed by

his father. It was there he grew to appreciate the music and great Hollywood stars of the silver screen, and at home the radio was never turned off.

After finishing his National Service, Dewi joined the BBC in 1954. During his long career he's turned his hand to a wide range of jobs throughout TV and radio.

For many years he was based in the BBC Wales Sports department and was TV co-ordinator for the first rugby world cup when it was held in Australia and New Zealand in 1987. In the same year he retired from sports broadcasting to return to his first love; entertainment on stage, screen and radio.

Hear Dewi on BBC Radio Wales every Sunday morning playing a selection of musical memories from the golden years of entertainment in his programme A String of Pearls at 9.05am. (Repeated Sunday nights at 8.00pm.)

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/wales/radiowales/sites/presenters/pages/dewi\\_griffiths.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/wales/radiowales/sites/presenters/pages/dewi_griffiths.shtml)

This is one of my favourite music programs off air or online. As with all BBC programs, one can listen on demand for 7 days after the broadcast. (FW)

### **VOA Microphone Comes Home After 34 Years**

**PRESS RELEASE** - Washington, D.C., May 28, 2010 - A vintage microphone used by the Voice of America during Cold War era broadcasts is back at the agency's D.C. headquarters, thanks to a sharp eyed curator at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, which borrowed the artifact three decades earlier.



After an extended time on display, the VOA microphone sat for years in a storage cabinet at the museum together with other microphones, including one used by Amelia Earhart during a press conference and another of the type used by Orson Welles during his legendary War of the Worlds broadcast.



Adorned with the iconic Voice of America nameplate, the Altec 639, first manufactured in the 1940s, was widely used by VOA broadcasters, including [Willis Conover](#), legendary host of *Music USA Jazz Hour*. Nicknamed the "birdcage" because of the enclosure surrounding the head, the microphone is 14 inches tall and weighs in at a brick-like 3 lbs, a giant compared to its modern cousins.

The microphone was loaned to the Smithsonian in 1976 for its bicentennial exhibition "A Nation of Nations," and was placed in secure storage when the exhibition closed. Museum Associate Curator Hal Wallace recently took charge of the museum's electricity collection and came across the microphone as part of a routine inventory.



Voice of America Director Danforth W. Austin said, "We are indebted to the Smithsonian for giving us back a piece of our history."

Wallace, who hand-carried the artifact to VOA, said it had been kept in storage because curators 30 years ago, "probably hoped to use it again for other exhibitions."

Soon the microphone will be part of a public display at the VOA headquarters, a reminder of the broadcasting service's founding era, a time before television and the internet, when radio was the sole source of news, music, and information for millions of people around the world.

<http://author.voanews.com/english/About/2010-05-28-microphone.cfm>