



Programming Matters – Sept 2009

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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

“Despite its vast natural resources, Iran is still a Third World country. However, almost all Iranians own radios and use them regularly to get their news and entertainment. Radios are not illegal and almost all automobiles are equipped with a shortwave band. Shopkeepers, housewives, taxi drivers, street vendors and factory workers listen to the radio on a regular basis. The radios are also very cheap, thanks to Chinese and Korean imports. It is noteworthy that Khomeini successfully used shortwave broadcasts from France for almost a year, broadcasting his propaganda against the Shah and preparing the people for uprising prior to the revolution of 1979.”

<http://www.israelnationalnews.com/Articles/Article.aspx/9006>

Canada

CFRB/CFRX

While CFRX has been back and is now down again, one wonders about its future after many cuts at CFRB in the past week or so.

“CFRB has axed 12 employees -- including some of its high-profile personalities -- in an attempt to boost ailing ratings.

“‘We are doing a restructuring of the station,’ said Sherry O’Neil, general manager of the Astral Media station.

"We will still be committed to talk radio, but our audience has declined over the years and we are trying to increase our audience."

(snip)

"Pink slips have been issued to on-air personalities Paul and Carol Mott, Michael Coren, Jacqui Delaney and newscaster Kris McCusker, as well as producers and news staffers.

"We can't comment (on being let go)", Coren, a Toronto Sun columnist, said.

"All employees have been given severance packages and they have been treated with the respect they deserve," O'Neil said, adding the restructuring has nothing to do with the economy. "

<http://www.torontosun.com/news/torontoandgta/2009/08/28/10646411-sun.html>

Also let go was Operations Manager Steve Kowch.

The Sowny Show

The Sowny Show is an internet radio program/podcast, put together by my friends Don Andrews and Craig Smith (moderator of the **Southern Ontario – Western NY Radio Board**)...mentioned here many times over the past few years. While they have ceased making new programs, thanks to this inter-web-thingy most, if not all, past programs are archived. They scored some fantastic interviews over the past few years with some real legends of radio in these parts. These include, the aforementioned Mr. Kowch, the late Jack Armstrong (CHUM and WKBW) recorded shortly before his untimely death, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame DJ David Marsden, Carl Banas, Andy Barrie and so many more. One special program featured the late Brian Smith discussing the ODXA and Dxing. And if there's absolutely nothing else to listen to, I dropped in briefly a couple of times.

Craig and Don were able to line up some impressive interviews. You can access them by going to <http://www.sowny.ca/> and go to the link on the left for "The Sowny Show".



Craig Smith, outside the legendary CHUM studios



(l-r Brian Smith, Don Andrews, Brian Peroff (AM 740 Music Director) and Fred Waterer...Nov 2003 AM 740 fan get-together)

Germany/Japan

Elections in Germany and Japan are proving difficult for incumbents. Japan's Ruling LDP was trounced in national elections. It had ruled for all but 15 months since 1955. In Germany, Angela Merkel's conservatives lost a couple of state elections. Third parties had a surge of support. For the first time its possible that the Left Party, successor to the old East German communists and disaffected Social Democrats could enter a coalition government in the west of the country. Deutsche Welle's Newline and Radio Japan's English service will be all over developments in their respective countries.

Newslink brings you daily in-depth coverage and analysis of European and global current affairs.

Listen to the top stories in politics, business and sports from around the globe with a special focus on German and European trends and developments. Don't miss this opportunity to hear Europeans reporting on their home continent!

We also report on those off-beat stories that reflect Europe's diversity.

<http://www.dw-world.de/dw/0,,3083,00.html>

New Programs From Deutsche Welle

European Business Week

European Business Week looks at the major happenings in the world of money and provides insights into the business climate in Europe. We explore the major issues in the economic world, with a personal touch.

Curious about the financial crisis? What does it mean to each individual sector? Who are some of the winners in the time of turmoil?

European Business Week taps the knowledge of experts, officials and reporters to answer these questions and many more. The show also takes a look into the corners of markets that may be less explored, yet impact the way people live and conduct trade.

Look to European Business Week for a unique, and at times entertaining, perspective on the economic world.

<http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,,4142066,00.html>

Living in Germany

Germany is the land of music and poetry, great thinkers and philosophers, art and culture, science and invention and, of course, sausage and beer -- and it's home to some 82 million people.

But what is it really like to live in Germany? This is what "Living in Germany" sets out to explore, by looking at the lives of Germans and non-Germans who live here.

Join Sue Cox and the rest of the team every week for an exciting and entertaining look at what "Living in Germany" is really like.

<http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,,4146361,00.html>

Music This Week

Music can change lives -- and it has down through the ages. Just how that has happened is the theme of DW's new five-minute mini documentary Music This Week.

Each episode looks at a particular date -- a world premiere, the birthday or death date of a musician, or an important historical event -- and explores the music that went along with it.

Did you know, for example, that Smetana's "The Moldau" eventually led to the birth of a nation? Or that Frederick the Great, the "soldier king," played the flute and invited Johann Sebastian Bach to improvise on one of Frederick's melodies? That the Beatles owed some of their early success to their gigs in Hamburg's red light district, or that Elvis, already hugely popular, came to Germany as a GI in the 1950's? How did Martin Luther come to discover that he could deliver as many sermons as he wanted, but it was the church hymns set to popular tunes of the day that really got the message across? What about the great men and women who set the style and defined the musical idiom for generations to come: George Frideric Handel, Bob Marley, Billie Holiday?

In a fast-paced dialogue of spoken word and music excerpts, we cover it all in Music This Week.

<http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,,4146345,00.html>

European Business Week can be heard on UTC Fridays. Living in Germany and Music This Week can be heard on UTC Tuesdays.

Iran

Shortwave Radio Can Free Iran
by Dr. Arash Irandoost

Will you help?

In reaction to the Islamic Republic's media crackdown, I have been discussing the merits of establishing shortwave radio broadcasting with media experts and those interested in overthrowing the Islamic dictatorship of Iran. The idea has received wide acceptance as a viable tool. I have decided to share it with the people of the world and ask for input and financial support, as they have been most generous and supportive allies of this pro-democracy movement. Many world leaders and international organizations, on the other hand, have been absent and silent.

The Islamic Republic has systematically attempted to cut off communication links, in order to accomplish its inhumane and bloody massacre of the peaceful demonstrators who, within the confines of the ever-restrictive Islamic Republic's

laws, rose up and demanded an accurate vote count. Thus, establishing reliable communications between Iran and the people of the world is essential and of utmost urgency.

(snip)

Twenty or so Farsi satellite television stations broadcast to Iran from the United States (Los Angeles and Washington), Canada and Europe. Many of these stations are directly or indirectly funded by the regime. Only a handful of the publicly supported opposition television stations are actively fighting the regime, but with major obstacles. The regime has successfully been able to shut down, jam or interrupt their programming and broadcasts to Iran at critical times such as these. Statistics are not readily available or reliable, however, very few Iranians own satellite receivers due to the expense and illegality of ownership - it is a crime and thus subject to severe punishment. Reports and pictures from Iran show that the regime is using helicopters to locate satellite dishes on the rooftops, and is actively engaged in collecting and destroying them; again, to limit access to information and news.

Much to the dislike of the ayatollahs, another mode of communication that Iranians have successfully utilized to receive information and send their messages, along with horrible pictures of killings, beatings and mass demonstrations, has been cellular phones. Here again, telecommunications is state run and, as mentioned earlier, thanks to companies such as Nokia and Siemens the regime has had the upper hand.

Realizing the limitations of the aforementioned telecommunication technologies, we might have overlooked the efficacy of the shortwave radio broadcast. It has merit and deserves a closer look.

Shortwave possesses a number of advantages over newer technologies:

- * The difficulty in censoring programming by authorities and arresting listeners: unlike the Internet and cell phones, mullahs cannot monitor which stations (sites) are being listened to (accessed).

- * Low-cost shortwave radios are widely available in Iran.

- * Many newer shortwave receivers are portable and can be battery operated, making them useful in difficult circumstances. Newer technology includes hand-cranked radios which provide power for a short time.

- * Shortwave radios can be used in situations where Internet or satellite technology is unavailable, unaffordable or illegal.

* Shortwave radio travels much farther than broadcast FM (88-108 MHz). Shortwave broadcasts can be easily transmitted over a distance of several thousand kilometers; i.e., from one continent to another, especially at night.

(snip)

The estimated cost for such a system varies, but I am informed by many experts that a functional system for a two-hour daily broadcast, with an editing and sound room, can be set up for around \$500,000.

<http://www.israelnationalnews.com/Articles/Article.aspx/9006>

Russia

RUSSIA - 1000 YEARS OF MUSIC



We are launching a new 'series within a series' which we have entitled **Silver Age** - this is how a specific period in the Russian art of the early 20th century was dubbed. An incredibly talent-rich period, Silver Age simply erupted with revelations, putting the clock back on the many-centuries old current of world culture. It was a breakthrough into the future...

RUSSIA – 1000 YEARS OF MUSIC weekly feature will bring you everything there is to know about that time in music. Please tune in to the program on Thursday at 15.30, 18.30 and 23.30, and on Friday at 00.30, 03.30 and 09.30 UTC.

GUIDE TO PROGRAMS

The Voice of Russia World Service offers listeners the following regular features:

NEWS AND VIEWS	- Our views on news developments
OUTLOOK	- A roundup of current events and stories as they develop
RUSSIA AND THE WORLD	- Informs you about the latest developments in Russia and its contacts with other countries
GUEST SPEAKER	- A daily program hosted by commentator Vitaly Glazunov featuring leading Russian and foreign political scientists, economists and art celebrities
THIS IS RUSSIA	- A program addressed to those who want to get to know Russia and the Russians better. Visit our cities and regions, hear more about our nature, culture, the arts, religion, and, of course, about Russians
MOSCOW YESTERDAY AND TODAY	- A weekly series of programs addressed to those who are interested in the history of Moscow, the capital of the Russian State
RUSSIAN HITS	- A brand-new program of 10 songs by this country's top pop and rock performers for you to choose from!
KALEIDOSCOPE	- Information on the latest events in the Commonwealth of Independent States, economic, social and cultural, and also on the traditions and customs of its peoples

THE VOR TREASURE-STORE	- Includes archival programs on various topics – historical, cultural, etc.
MOSCOW MAILBAG	- A question and answer show based on your letters. For many years the top-rated program from Moscow
THE LEGENDS OF RUSSIAN SPORTS	- A program dedicated to prominent Russian athletes, known for their outstanding achievements and contribution to the Russian and international Olympic Movement
THE WHIMS OF FATE	- Programs about life historical figures and ordinary people, who affected the fate of their near and dear, and even of whole generations
THE CHRISTIAN MESSAGE FROM MOSCOW	- Programs about Russian Orthodoxy, stories about the lives of Russian Saints and also church music and religious literature
SPIRITUAL FLOWERBED	- “Spiritual Flowerbed” – reflections and recommendations from the clergy of the Russian Orthodox Church for those struggling to cement their souls against passions and vices that lead to sin and to save their souls for eternity.
MUSIC AND MUSICIANS	- World-famous performers and composers play for you
MUSICAL TALES	- A wealth of eye-opening information, little-known facts, popular music and rare recordings will help you to know more about the past and present of Russian music
RUSSIA - 1000 YEARS OF MUSIC	- Leads you, year by year, century by century, through the history of Russian music
MUSIC CALENDAR	- A monthly program about musicians and musical events that have stood the test of time - the strictest and most objective judge ever. In each broadcast we'll be remembering the high points of the incoming month
FOLK BOX	- An indispensable program for lovers of folk music
JAZZ SHOW	- A program welcoming you to the world of jazz
SCIENCE PLUS	- Estelle Winters brings you a wide range of themes related one way or another with scientific matters
SONGS FROM RUSSIA	- Presents melodies of the past and musical novelties
ENCYCLOPEDIA "ALL RUSSIA"	- A history of Russian civilization based upon the Russian alphabet, where each letter tells a tale about a major event, an outstanding personality or places of interest that at various times graced Russian history and culture
TIMELINES	- Estelle Winters giving you an insight into life in Moscow through foreign eyes every weekend with information, entertainment and a few laughs
RUSSIAN BY RADIO	- Russian-language lessons for foreigners

United States

Halifax native joins Catholic radio station

Halifax native Patrick Coffin has been named as host of Catholic Answers Live, the number one-rated Catholic radio broadcast in America.

(snip)

Catholic Answers Live boasts the largest listening audience of any Catholic talk radio show, heard on over 120 stations in the United States and Canada, on Channel 160 on Sirius Satellite Radio, and around the world on shortwave and by Internet stream.

"Patrick brings a fresh voice to our flagship broadcast," Karl Keating, the station's founder, said in a news release.

<http://thechronicleherald.ca/Religion/1137661.html>

I had a quick look at the Catholic Answers Live website. While shortwave in it's own right gets no mention, one can infer that WEWN carries the program. Under "Satellite" it states: "Satellite radio provider, Sirius (web site: www.sirius.com), now carries **EWTN** on their channel 160. "Catholic Answers LIVE" can be heard live across the United States at 3 PM Pacific (6 PM Eastern) and on tape at 12 AM Pacific (3 AM Eastern). EWTN operates WEWN.

Another notable Haligonian (resident of Halifax), Pastor Perry F. Rockwood was heard for more than half a century on shortwave. His distinctive voice graced the People's Gospel Hour for six decades. For much of that time he was heard daily or weekly on stations such as HCJB and WDCX in Buffalo, NY.

And like Lester Sumrall, Gene Scott, J. Vernon McGee and others, through the magic of recording tape (and mp3s) their voices will go on for the foreseeable future.

Pastor Perry F. Rockwood

At Home with the Lord

"Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints" (Psalm 116:15).

On March 7, 2008, just 16 days short of his 91st birthday, our Lord called his faithful and beloved servant Home to Glory.

We had been trusting the Lord to heal your radio Pastor, but our Heavenly Father saw Pastor Rockwood's work here on earth was done and, according to His perfect plan, called him to higher service above.

During his brief illness, our Pastor viewed his hospital room as a mission field: he displayed a God-given gracious spirit, and sweet patience and thankfulness to all who ministered to him. And he never failed to speak of the Saviour he loved to those who were lost.

We who were privileged to work alongside of Pastor Rockwood saw daily his love for his Lord: for the precious inspired, preserved Word of God: for lost souls and believers. He served his Master with great joy and zeal, and wholeheartedly made himself available for God to work in and through him for His glory.

Over the past 60 years and more, the Lord has grown his faith-ministry to reach around the world, ministering to lost souls and encouraging believers in the faith by means of radio and literature. For some time, Pastor Rockwood's desire was

for this missionary work to continue, using his voice and message by converting past tape recording to a CD format. This plan has been carried out for several years now and the radio programs and literature will continue to be sent forth as Pastor had planned.

You will miss Pastor Rockwood just as we will, but our Lord reminds us that we "sorrow not, even as others which have no hope" (1 Thessalonians 4:13) and that "the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort" will give us faith, courage and strength to be co-labourers together with Him. Let us continue to faithfully serve our Lord together until we see Him face to face.

<http://www.tpgh.org/includes/Note.htm>

The People's Gospel Hour continues (according to their website) on among other stations:

KWHR Angel 4 - SW 9.510, 11565 kHz - Sunday 5:30 p.m.

WRMI 9955 SW - Saturday 8:30 a.m. & Sunday 5:30 p.m.

Fundamental Broadcasting Network (FBN):

Northern Hemisphere - WTJC 9370 kHz - Southern Hemisphere - WBOH 5920 kHz - Sunday 3:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. (Eastern) and Monday-Friday 8:05 a.m. & 11:30 p.m. (Eastern) also: www.fbnradio.com