

2019 WINTER SWL FEST PROGRAM AND FORUMS SCHEDULE

All times Eastern Standard (24-hour clock)

Thursday, 28 February 2019

1200 *Registration Table and Exhibit Room Open (until 1730)*
Hospitality Room/Receiver Demonstrations Open (until 2400)

1300 – MONITORING FEDERAL TWO WAY COMMUNICATIONS – Matt Blaze

In this year's kickoff session, Matt explains how to build a VHF/UHF network of monitoring stations to record every federal two way transmission in various cities, deal with encryption, what you can learn from metadata—and do it all on a (relatively) small budget without getting arrested!

1430 — BROADCASTING & LANGUAGE: A SWL's NEW PERSPECTIVE— Tracy Wood

Shortwave radio has long brought us an enticing cornucopia of regional language broadcasts. We'll examine how broadcasting services help to revive and advance "minority" languages often threatened by the larger global languages (e.g. English, French) to ultimately promote national and regional identities. Prime examples include Suomi (Norway), Quechua/Aymara (Bolivia), Frisian (Netherlands), Welsh (Wales) and Basque (Spain). Bring your own unique language examples to this discussion.

1600 — DIGGING THROUGH THE PAGES OF POP COMM— Dan Robinson

Many of us subscribed to Popular Communications during the years the publication existed. Issues are preserved online — but only a deep dive through thousands of pages reveals some fascinating historical gems and oddities that are worth remembering.

1700 *Dinner on Your Own*

1900 *Exhibit Room Re-Opens (until 2000)*
Registration Table Re-Opens (until 2000)

2000 – THE 2nd ANNUAL FEST TRIVIA QUIZ – Sheldon Harvey and Mickey Delmage

How well do you know radio? AM, shortwave, utilities, transmitter sites, station names, call letters, frequencies, interval signals, radio personalities, program names, and more, we'll have questions from all categories. This fun new session was very popular in its first iteration last year and so it returns to crown its second Winterfest Trivia Champ. The quiz is open to anyone with the courage to participate.

Friday, 1 March 2019

0800 *Registration Table Opens (until 1130)*
Exhibit Room Opens (all day)

0900 – WHAT ELSE CAN YOU LISTEN TO WITH A SCANNER?– Tom Swisher

“Oh no, the local police started using encryption, my life is over, whatever shall I do?” Fret not. There’s plenty to listen to out there. You might need a bit of patience, though. (This is our annual “Scanner Scum” session. Ask Tom how you can become Scum, too.)

1030 – RADIO ON THE ROAD REDUX – Janice Laws

Our own global trekker is up to 91 countries visited with participation in 3 global UN missions. She will play some samples of stations heard and show pictures from her travels, talking about her years in the hobby from a unique perspective—that of a “YL”. This has become a very popular session — find your seats early!

1130 *Lunch on Your Own*
Hospitality Room and Receiver Demonstrations Open (until 1330)

1315 *Registration Table Re-Opens (until 1500)*

1330 – PORTABLE PASSIONS – T.J. “Skip” Arey

Skip delves into the practice of playing radio from the field—park, camping, even ‘Pedestrian Mobile’. Rigs, antennas, accessories, power sources and other relevant ideas will be discussed.

1500 – RFA TODAY – Harry Scott

The loss of the Tinian and Saipan transmitters to typhoons has presented Radio Free Asia with a considerable challenge in reaching its listeners. Harry will discuss.

Friday, 1 March 2019

1630 – FROM U.S. HIGH SCHOOL RADIO TO COMMERCIAL RADIO: THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY OVER HALF A CENTURY!” – Allan Loudell

Allan Loudell has been a DXer and avid QSL collector since 1966, and on-the-air virtually every week of his life since 1969. He first honed his on-air skills at his high school radio station and reviews why some high school stations have thrived, while others have left the airwaves. And what it's like to run a commercial news/talk station in a medium market (such as his, WDEL AM & FM, Wilmington, DE) today? He'll give a whirlwind tour from then to now, with a few humorous stories along the way.

1730 *Dinner on Your Own*

Hospitality Room and Receiver Demonstrations Open (until 2400)

1900 *Informal Radio Swap Meet Starts (in the Exhibit Room)*

1945 — COMMUNITY RADIO IN THE AMERICAS AND BEYOND – Pete Tridish

FM Community Radio stations keep popping up around the world, even as other listening technologies mature. Community stations are experimenting with new audiences, formats, and cheaper tech options in order to extend the reach of their programming.

2115 – THE ANNUAL SHORTWAVE SHINDIG – David Goren

Come join our informal late night hang as David Goren and friends celebrate the short wavelengths with stories, songs, and vintage sounds. There will also be a sneak preview of David's new BBC World Service documentary on New York City's FM pirate scene.

Saturday, 2 March 2019

0800 *Registration Table Opens (until 0900)*
Exhibit Room Opens (all day)

0900 – STATE OF THE HOBBY: THE VIEW FROM EUROPE– Risto Vähäkainu

An accomplished DXer who has held prominent positions in major Finnish and European shortwave organizations and has been a frequent and welcome attendee at the Fest, Risto will discuss where our hobby sits today from a European perspective.

1000 *Silent Auction Opens (location TBA)*

1030 – THE ANNUAL PIRATE RADIO SESSION – George Zeller

A review of Pirate Radio news during the past year and the announcement of the new class of inductees to the North American Pirate Radio Hall of Fame. Who knows? Maybe there'll be mutiny too.

1200 *Lunch on Your Own*
Hospitality Room and Receiver Demonstrations Open (until 2400 or later)

1330 – THE URBAN DXER – Mike Nikolich

After moving into a condo on the 24th floor of a building in Chicago, long-time DXer Mike Nikolich, N9OVQ, was determined to keep his hobby alive. His presentation will focus on how Mike built a Go Box for all of his gear, including a custom rechargeable battery pack and various mobile antenna solutions for ham and SW DXing “off the grid,” including from the roof of his building.

1500 – SHORTWAVE MEMORIES – Dan Robinson/Skip Arey/David Goren

By popular demand, Dan, Skip and David once again chronicle the personal memories of Fest attendees about what shortwave has meant to them throughout their lives, putting some needed focus on the human side, rather than the more commonly heard mechanical or technical aspects, of the hobby.

Saturday, 2 March 2019

1630 *Silent Auction Ends*
Exhibit Room Closes

1800 *Cocktail Party*

1830 *Annual Banquet*

*Keynote Speaker: Paul Ladd, Senior Correspondent,
World Christian Broadcasting (KNLS / MWV Madagascar)*
Topic: Why Shortwave Still Matters

2100 *The Raffle – You know how this works...*

2400 *The Midnight Ride of Pancho Villa (?) – If one were to know...*