

2020 WINTER SWL FEST PROGRAM AND FORUMS SCHEDULE

All times Eastern Standard.

As of 24 February 2020. This appears to be final, but who knows?

Thursday, 27 February 2020

1200 *Registration Table and Exhibit Room Open (until 1730)*

Hospitality Room/Receiver Demonstrations Open (closed during forum sessions)

1300 – FIRE & FURY - CHANGES IN NORTH KOREA'S MEDIA IN THE KIM JONG UN ERA - Mark Fahey

An update on Mark's 2014 Fest (was it really that long ago?) presentation - presenting the significant changes in North Korea's broadcast media and propaganda over the last 6 years since **Behind The Curtain**. The session examines the DPRK media and broadcast infrastructure and how a series of summits between the USA and the DPRK has impacted their propaganda messaging. The session features unique / never seen before captures of radio and television broadcasts captured in the tinderbox border regions of North Korea and China.

1430 -- ONE MAN'S TRIP TO ANDORRA - Tracy Wood

Tracy discusses his experiences attending last year's European DX Council (EDXC) annual convention in Andorra, closes the loop on last year's talk on regional language broadcasts and provides some personal insights on radio in Spain's Catalunya and Val d'Aran regions.

1600 -- LATIN AMERICAN RADIO THROUGH THE YEARS - Don Moore

Don will draw on pictures, station visits, and stories from his five decades in the hobby and his many trips to the Americas other than North.

1730 *Dinner on Your Own*

1900 *Exhibit Room Re-Opens*

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

2000 – THE 3rd 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 session returns to crown its third Winterfest Trivia Champ. The quiz is open to everyone!

Friday, 28 February 2020

0830 *Registration Table Opens (until 1130)*

Exhibit Room Opens (all day)

0900 - THE RETURN (OH NO!) OF THE SCANNER SCUM– Tom Swisher

Sure they're scary... but they also know a lot about how to use a scanner radio. Just keep your head down and ears open.

1030 – "YL": MY LIFE IN RADIO – Janice Laws

Janice takes a look at our hobby from a clearly unique perspective. (Just take a look at the registration list and the folks sitting around you.) She discusses her observations and experiences as a female SWL/DXer.

1130 *Lunch on Your Own*

Hospitality Room and Receiver Demonstrations Open (until 1300)

1245 *Registration Table Re-Opens (until 1500)*

1300 – A VINTAGE TRANSCEIVER REVIEW – T.J. "Skip" Arey

Skip takes a deep dive into the venerable Heathkit HW7, 8 and 9 transceivers.

1430 – A NEW ERA IN PORTABLE SDR DXING - Thomas Witherspoon

Recent innovations in the world of SDRs have made it easier than ever to take SDRs on vacations, DXpeditions and other travels. Thomas will talk about the benefits of a portable SDR setup and how you can create one of your own. Designing a DX-grade system is surprisingly easy and more affordable than ever.

1600 - THE LOOP ANTENNA SERIES RESUMES! - Jef Eichner

Jef is back and continues his popular series of talks on the practical aspects of loop construction -- materials, tools, techniques, tricks of the trade etc. He explains easy formulas and ways to design and build loops without a lot of complicated math or computer programs. He intends to cover small loops, halos, full loops and terminated loops.

1730 *Dinner on Your Own*

Hospitality Room and Receiver Demonstrations Open (until 2400)

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

2000 – FILM SCREENING “SPEAK SO I CAN SEE YOU”

Marija Stojnic’s documentary follows the story of Radio Belgrade, one of Europe’s oldest radio stations. This 73 minute film is an experimental homage to the memories and historical importance of this radio station that started over 90 years ago and is the only one in Serbia that still provides its listeners with rich cultural programming.

ANNUAL SHORTWAVE SHINDIG – David Goren

Come join our informal and popular late night hang as David Goren and friends celebrate the short wavelengths with stories, songs, and vintage sounds.

Shortwave Shindig Opening Ceremonies

2115 - 2200

Our resident folk music laureate Saul Broudy opens the show with old radio favorites and specialties from his vast repertoire followed by a revue of shortwave sounds in popular culture and specially commissioned works.

Meet the Archivists

2200 - 2245

Our panel of radio archivists Thomas Witherspoon, Mark Fahey and David Goren share rarities from their archives including some gems from the recently rescued collection of the late Michael Pool aka The Professor.

NYC FM Pirate Radio Update

2245 - 2330

A sneak peek at a major update to the Brooklyn Pirate Radio Sound Map and related news and discussion about urban pirate radio in the U.S.

Mercy! So Much Noise

2330-????

Tom Miller aka Comrade Squelch and David Goren weave a dense mix combining live radio with archival air checks.

Saturday, 29 February 2020

0900 Registration Table Opens (until 0930)

Exhibit Room Opens (all day)

0930 - USING AND ABUSING MEASUREMENT AND COUNTERMEASURE RECEIVERS ON SHORTWAVE AND BEYOND - Matt Blaze

Some of the most interesting (and often highest performing) receivers weren't actually designed to be used to listen to signals, but rather to measure them or detect their presence. Designed for everything from laboratory measurement of emissions to FCC direction finding to finding hidden bugs and listening devices ("TSCM"), these receivers have a long history but are largely invisible and unknown to hobbyists. Demodulation of signals is often an afterthought in their design, but they often well outperform conventional receivers on crowded bands. This talk will

survey the world of measurement and TSCM receivers, with some live demos and interesting history. Best of all, some of these radios can be found on the surplus market for a song, though others can cost you an arm and/or a leg.

1000 Silent Auction Opens (Spruce Room)

1100 – 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. Bring your commemorative eye patches.

1200 Lunch on Your Own

Hospitality Room and Receiver Demonstrations Open (until 1400)

1400 – WELCOME TO THE JUNGLE - Mark Fahey

Mark writes, "This began as a personal DX-pedition to a remote village community in Indonesia's Bali Province to capture and record local and regional MW and SW Tropical Band spectrum. It was a total failure. I didn't suffer any equipment problems, the loop antennas performed well; the problem was that MW, SW radio is irrelevant to the local population and there were just no longer any local stations broadcasting to archive. To salvage the experience, I shifted my focus to recording video and audio of local gamelan and soundscapes. Seen as a novelty by the local jungle community, I was soon allocated land, the village built me a house and I have become the first foreigner to every become a resident of the village. In return I am delivering a project to introduce and up-skill the village in sustainable eco-industries and how to manage these ventures using digital technologies. A component of the project has seen the establishment of three radio stations broadcasting 100% Balinese content. They are the first 24-hour radio stations in the province. My presentation discusses the journey, twists and turns and how Radio Seribatu has in less than twelve months reached the third most listened to radio network in all of Indonesia."

1630 Silent Auction Ends

Exhibit Room Closes

1800 Cocktail Party

1830 Annual Banquet

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Kim Andrew Elliott, formerly Voice of America Audience Research Analyst, former host of VOA's "Communications World", Developer of "The Shortwave Radiogram".

Topic: **International Broadcasting in Interesting Times**

2100 The Raffle - You know how this works...

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

Thanks to all who make the Fest possible!

Hospitality: **Tim Moody, supported by John Abbamont**

Listening Lounge / Receiver Room: **Eric Cottrell, Dan Robinson, Matt Blaze**

Pennants: **Brian Penney**

A / V Support: **David Goren**

Silent Auction: **Rich D'Angelo, Ron Hunsicker, Dave Turnick**

All the Forum presenters!

Prize Contributors: *Many thanks to those who have supported us this year --*

Universal Radio

Radio HF

CIDX

CKUT-FM, Montreal

NASWA

World Radio TV Handbook

Spectrum Monitor

...And the "Gang Of Three" (Bob Brown, Harold "Dr. DX" Cones, Kris Field) for hatching the idea of the Fest in the first place!