
SCANNERS

SHORTWAVE

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NYDXA@yahoo.com

CONVENTION ACTIVITY

The NJ State Attorney General's office has received approval for 2 frequencies to be used during the convention. They are setting up a multi-agency task force called the "Urban Area Security Initiative Interoperability working group". This will cover all of North East NJ, from Union County to Bergen County, and from Morris County eastward, and also including the NY/NJ-PA. Also the NJSP Troop Headquarters in Mercer County is licensed as well.

The Freq.'s licensed are:

470.2375 (Input 473.2375)

470.0875 (Input 473.0875)

For more information I suggest you study the FCC data at :

http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/cgi-bin/ws.exe/genmen/uls/freq_st_res.hts?db_id=19&ows=0&state=NJ&freq=00000470.23750000

and

http://gullfoss2.fcc.gov/cgi-bin/ws.exe/genmen/uls/freq_st_res.hts?db_id=19&ows=0&state=NJ&freq=00000470.08750000

UNIDEN BC296D FIRMWARE UPDATE

Uniden recently released new firmware for the BC796D. This is ONLY for the 796D, not the 296 or 785. It's said to reduce birdies and improves APCO 25 reception. It's available at:

http://www.uniden.com/productsupport_downloads.cfm?product=BC296D

BC796

http://www.uniden.com/productsupport_downloads.cfm?product=BC796D

CONVENTION BRINGS HEIGHTENED SECURITY IN THE AIR

(August 12) The FBI recently reported that planned terrorist attacks included using helicopters. Tourist "sight seeing helicopters roam freely in and around New York City. Today officials announced that the FAA will require all helicopters in New York air

THE URBAN DX'ER

Established 1984

space to undergo a security check before entering the area. Helicopters entering New York airspace from the North and East will be required to land at Republic Airport in Farmingdale, NY. Those entering from the South and West will be required to land at Morristown Airport in New Jersey. Here's a list of frequencies worth listening to:

Republic Airport, Farmingdale, NY

<http://www.republicairport.net/>

Arrival & Departure: 118.4, 123.7, 127.4, 132.4, 134.35

ATIS: 126.65

Clearance & Delivery: 128.85

Ground 121.6

Tower: 118.8, 125.2

Unicom: 122.95

Miscellaneous: 123.2, 123.3, 123.4, 123.5, 123.525, 129.0, 129.05, 129.25, 130.575, 130.6, 153.11, 464.325

Morristown Airport - Morristown, NJ

<http://www.mmuair.com/>

Arrival & Departure: 119.2, 135.35

ATIS: 124.25

Clearance & Delivery: 121.2

Ground 121.7

Tower: 118.1

Unicom: 122.95

Miscellaneous: 123.2, 123.3, 129.05, 129.6, 129.625, 129.725, 130.15, 130.325, 130.95, 131.2, 131.8, 464.625

NYPD Air Comms can usually be found on **123.1**

BAYONNE UPDATES

The city of Bayonne, NJ (Hudson County) has numerous pending licenses. It appears that they may be moving to UHF. Frequencies to watch are 470.0625, 470.175, 470.1875, 470.2375, 470.2875, 476.125, 476.200, 476.250

BC-898T ANNOUNCEMENT

The brand new Uniden Bearcat 898T scanner is now available. The radio replaces the very popular Bearcat 895 and offers many significant upgrades over the old radio, including: EDACS (tm) and LTR (tm) Trunktracking; the ability to trunk track multiple bands and trunk scan/search and conventional scan all at the same time; Instant sub-audible tone detection (no more slow check through all possible tones -- now it's instant!); regular DB-9 computer connection; and more.

The radio still has that great look and feel of a sturdy base station scanner with it's big and easy-to-use VFO/tuning knob, front-panel headphone jack, large keys, etc. Best of all it still has a very sensitive front-end that made the 895 a favorite of many radio hobbyists.

- Multiple channels (500) / Banks (10)
- Frequency Coverage* - Includes the most interesting "action" bands where you can hear police, ambulance, fire, amateur radio, public utilities, weather, and more. 25-54, 108-174, 216-512, 806-956 (excluding cellular)
- 1000 Talk Group ID's in 10 Lists of 10 per Bank - Let's you quickly select the talk groups you want to hear when you listen to trunked systems.
- TrunkTracker III Technology - So you can keep up with the action on Motorola, EDACS and LTR systems.
- DCS/CTCSS Rapid Decode - Detects and displays the sub audible tone so you can quickly determine the system settings.
- S.A.M.E. Weather Alert - Specific Area Message Encoding - During a NOAA Weather or Emergency Alert, a code for your specific location will alert you to severe conditions in your immediate area.
- Conventional and Trunked Search Operations - Let's you find transmissions not listed in any book or anyone's web site.
- Priority Operation - Helps ensure that you don't miss important transmissions on the
- AC Adapters, DC Power Cable and Automotive Power Outlet Plug – More options for supplying power to your scanner at home or in your car.

- Programmable Delay - When programmed on a channel, it allows time for a reply on the same channel before resuming to scan.
- Programmable Search - Allows you to set the upper and lower limits of specific frequency range for easier searching.
- Modulation Capability (AM/FM/NFM)
- Frequency Steps (kHz) 5/6.25/12.5/25
- 200 Talk Group Skip Memories
- 100 Search Skip Memories



NYC's VOICE OF FM – CONDE NAST

Following the loss of the World Trade Center's 360-foot antenna, New York City FM radio needed a new home for several of its FM radio stations. Using a relatively unconventional antenna design, the Conde Nast building located in Times Square now provides equal and in some cases better

coverage than previously provided from WTC, despite it's lower elevation and smaller size.

Visitors to NYC often mistake the ornate antenna design as "construction in progress!"

MADISON SQUARE GARDEN FREQ'S

Someone who asked to remain anonymous sent us a list of frequencies licensed to Madison Square Garden. These should be active during the convention.

Security

| | |
|---------|--------------------------|
| 464.425 | 5 watts |
| 464.525 | 5 watts |
| 464.575 | 3 watts/5 watts/40 watts |
| 464.675 | 3 watts/5 watts/40 watts |
| 464.775 | 5 watts |
| 464.825 | 3 watts/5 watts/40 watts |
| 464.875 | 5 watts |
| 464.975 | 5 watts |
| 469.675 | 3 watts |
| 469.825 | 3 watts |
| 469.575 | 3 watts |

Other

| | |
|----------|------------|
| 154.515 | 2 watts |
| 154.6 | 2 watts |
| 461.2375 | 2 watts |
| 461.8375 | 2 watts |
| 466.2375 | 2 watts |
| 466.8375 | 2 watts |
| 468.2125 | 0.01 watts |
| 468.2375 | 0.01 watts |
| 468.4375 | 0.01watts |
| 468.4625 | 0.01 watts |
| 468.6875 | 0.01 watts |
| 468.7125 | 0.01 watts |
| 468.9375 | 0.01 watts |
| 468.9625 | 0.01 watts |

STOP THE PRESSES!

Just as I was about to finish up this issue of The Urban DX'er, I received a most interesting e-mail from someone in the Boston area. During the Democratic convention several people reported hearing repeaters in the **216 – 218 MHz** band. Though the e-mail I received did not go into heavy detail, it made it clear that it was military in nature. I've also received several e-mail from people asking, "what frequencies should I be listening to?"

Virtually every agency will be active, though the traffic may not use the primary frequencies we normally monitor. My suggestion is to review all the info offered at <http://www.n2nov.net> Charlie usually updates these pages as info is received, often several times each week. Please be sure to share any "interesting" frequencies with us – e mail to nydxa@yahoo.com

RADIO LOCATOR.COM

<http://www.radio-locator.com/>

"Radio-Locator; the most comprehensive radio station search engine on the internet." Here you'll find links to over 10,000 radio station web pages and over 2500 audio streams from radio stations in the U.S. and around the world.

RADIO SCRAPBOOK

<http://rockradioscrapbook.tripod.com/index.html>

If you've been DX'ing the AM broadcast bands and remember such stations as WMGM, WIBG or listening to "Cousin Brucie" on your "6 transistor" radio, than you're obviously old enough to wonder what ever happened to all those on air personalities. I stumbled on this site – boy did it bring back some memories!

And speaking of yesterday's radio, we've lost another part of history.

Chuck Leonard, radio personality from 1965 to 1979 at the legendary WABC Musicradio 77 in New York City, passed away on August 12, 2004 after succumbing to lung cancer. He was 67.

During the heyday of AM Top 40 radio, Chuck Leonard was a key member of the team of disc jockeys, known as the WABC "All Americans," who catapulted the station to number one status, rating book after rating book, year after year. WABC ultimately became the highest rated station in the U.S. From the birth of The Beatles right through the dawn of the new millennium and the birth of satellite radio programming, Chuck Leonard survived changes in music and radio programming format styles.

Chuck was a familiar voice not just to millions of metropolitan New York area listeners, *but thanks to WABC's powerful 50,000-watt signal, to fans in 38 states.* Chuck Leonard also communicated his love of music to his listeners across the nation daily via "Sneak Preview," his ABC Radio Network program in which he introduced the latest new songs and



Chuck Leonard

groups. His network signature sign-off was "Chuck Leonard, sneeeekin' it to 'ya!"

Chuck Leonard truly had "golden pipes," radio lingo for a deep, rich, smooth voice. His style was personable, upbeat, and energetic with perfect diction.

Dan Ingram, well-known WABC afternoon personality, recalled how he discovered Chuck: "I listened to WWRL, a rhythm and blues station, and I heard this guy named Chuck Leonard. I didn't know if he was red, white or green. I couldn't care less. He just sounded like he was kickin' butt. I asked our General Manager to turn on WWRL. He said that guy sounds good. I said yea, you might want to put him on following Cousin Brucie. He invited Chuck into his office and told him he wanted Chuck to do the show. Chuck said I don't want to be anybody's experiment. The manager grabbed Chuck's hand and said don't worry about it. Some experiment, he was there for 14 years!" In his book, "Rocking America," WABC Program Director Rick Sklar noted that "Leonard Goldenson, ABC's Chairman of the Board, was "delighted" that Chuck Leonard had become the station's first African American DJ.

Chuck's primary airshift at WABC was from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m. following Cousin Bruce Morrow and later George Michael. He also did weekends and fill-in work.

Besides having radio's "golden pipes," Chuck Leonard was also a golden gloves boxing champion in his youth. Most found this side of Chuck ironic due to his docile demeanor.

While earning his degree in journalism at the University of Illinois at Urbana Champagne, Chuck served as Program Director of the college radio station. For a brief period after graduation, Chuck worked for the Washington Evening Star newspaper. But he was soon lured by his love of radio and accepted a position at Baltimore's WEBB, where he worked until joining WWRL.

After leaving WABC in 1979, Chuck held on-air positions at FM stations WXLO, WRKS, WBLS and WQEW-AM, all in New York, as well as WJUX Jukebox Radio. Most recently, Chuck Leonard joined the cutting edge Sirius Satellite Radio on both the Swing Street and Soul Review channels.

Those who knew Chuck Leonard respected him and considered him a true friend. He loved life and loved people. WABC co-workers remembered how every time he entered the studio for his show, he would put his personal chair with the four-foot high seat behind the microphone, sit with perfect posture, put on a big smile that lit-up the room, signal his engineer to open his mic, and open every show with the vitality and excitement of the Manhattan night life he so loved.

WABC Program Director from 1973 to 1979, Glenn Morgan, recalled: "Chuck Leonard never let his stature as a superstar jock go to his head. He always had time for anybody who wanted to talk with him, which helped him immensely when it came to never losing touch with his audience. Chuck was always a gentleman. Over the years, Chuck and I became personal friends and spent a lot of time together outside of the station. A side of Chuck Leonard that listeners may not be aware of is that he was quite the philosopher and intellectual and loved to converse on a myriad of subjects. But what I will always remember is that whenever I needed a friend, he was the first person I would call. He will be missed very much."

Upon learning of Chuck's death, longtime WABC morning air personality, Harry Harrison commented: "I'm shocked and saddened to hear of Chuck's passing. He was a super talent, a super human being and a classy man."

Chuck Leonard was a member of St. Paul the Apostle Church in Manhattan where he served over the years as a lector, fundraiser, and emcee and as Parish Council President. He was a member of Alpha Phi Alpha, one of the first African American fraternities. He also served in the United States

Army during the Vietnam War. Chuck frequently donated his services as a host for charity telethons such as Variety: the Children's Charity, the March of Dimes and the American Cancer Society. He also liked computers, often using them to design cards for his family.

Born Charles Wesley Leonard in Chicago, Ill., Chuck became a longtime resident of New York City. He is survived by his beloved wife, Pamela Horrell Leonard, and daughters Diana Leonard and Kyra Johnson.

Urban DX'er would like to thank all those who contributed to this month's issue!

Charlie - N2NOV; "R" from Bridgeport, CT; N1MLZ, Kevin, Dave, KE2SL

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