

KVHF Radio  
P.O.B. 1540  
San Luis Obispo  
California 93406  
January 1, 1981

Gerry L. Dexter  
RR4 Box 80D  
Lake Geneva, Wisconsin 53147

Dear Sir:

This letter will verify that you did hear KVHF on March 16th of 1980 from 0222 until 0245<sup>GMT</sup> and also 1 June 1980 from 0912 until 0917<sup>GMT</sup> on a frequency of 6420 kHz. Thank you very much for writing and sending your reports which are of use to us. I hope this will be sufficient for a QSL as we have run out of cards.

The power of KVHF was 50 watts in March and was 250 watts when you heard us in June. During October and November we ran 1000 watts at various times, mostly on Saturday and Sunday mornings after 0800 GMT during the Tommy Johnson show. The power output was fed into a balanced inverted vee antenna at 70 feet.

Maybe a little background info. on KVHF would be of interest to you. The station went on shortwave in 1975 on 5025 kHz. Then with some experimenting, we were on different frequencies, 6260, 6255, and in 1976 we were on 6240 and once that year we were on 6100! All this time not one word was spoken, just a few minutes of music was played followed by dead air and then more music. We only had one turntable at this time. We have been on 6420 since March of 1978. Our first ID was given on March 16 as KVHF, which stands for "Keeping Very High Fidelity." Our engineer has always wanted to keep the audio quality as good as possible, since the fidelity of most shortwave stations is poor. We have had many, many excellent comments on our audio quality and signal.

The equipment was part used broadcast equipment with 2 cart machines, turntables, audio mixer and a limiter. Up until October of 1980, the 3 main people who ran KVHF were not aware of the SWLs out there listening or if anyone was listening! They are ham operators and did not know about the shortwave and DX clubs. So, Tommy Johnson got me involved. I told him that people wanted QSL cards and he got a PO Box. They never heard about the other pirate stations or the Free Radio Campaign til last month. After giving out the address on the air, the letters started to pour in. I did 2 mailbag shows reading the letters and confirming reports on the air. Then we got the QSLs made. I am the only one that is an active DXer being a member of NASWA and SPEEDX. So, I kept them up to date what the DX press was saying about them, and it turned out to be 90 per cent good for KVHF.

During November the programming improved with Tommy Johnson doing a polished show and the listeners enjoyed the music which was music that you could not hear anywhere else. Over 1000 albums and 45s from the 40's, 50's 60's and 70's. Usually it was a mix of oldies, comedy records and jazz. I think the difference between us and others was our professionalism and our excellent technical quality. Two of us are professional broadcasters with commercial licenses and one has a ham license. The brain behind the technical output of KVHF was the engineer, Bruce, a handicapped man in his 30's whose only pleasure was having people enjoy his high fidelity broadcasts on shortwave. He wasn't hurting or interfering with anyone.

The FCC walked in after he went off the air on 23 November. They claimed it was a routine station inspection. They took pictures of the equipment and wrote down serial numbers of the equipment. A lawyer told us this may have been an illegal search. Later he received a letter of violation which we answered by applying for a license to broadcast on shortwave. All letters of comment and support with ideas for programming and what the DX community wants to hear should be addressed to KVHF, PO Box 1540, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406. Any questions ~~about~~ about the technical part of the station should be marked "attention- Bruce".

Tommy Johnson has talked on the phone for a couple <sup>of</sup> ~~or~~ hours recently ~~to~~ to Glenn Hauser and he found that the KVHF story is interesting and of great interest to its listeners and other DXers, and will be told in its entirety one day.

I hope you now understand a little of what we were trying to do. It was all run from Bruce's bedroom in a house in the middle of Santa Ana, Calif. Thank you again for your report and for writing.

Sincerely,

*Kevin O'Connell*

Kevin O'Connell

KVHF QSL Secretary