

Thursday, August 29, 2013

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ADIO: Newcap bought the final five stations Bell Media was to divest as part of its approval for the purchase of Astral Media. They are: Boom 97.3 (CHBM-FM)/93.5 Flow (CFXJ-FM) Toronto and Virgin Radio 95.3 (CKZZ-FM)/Shore 104.3 (CHHR-FM)/AM 650 (CISL) Vancouver. Purchase price is \$112 million plus assumption of some liabilities. For the 12-month period ended May 31, those five stations had revenues of approximately \$40 million. Going into the Toronto and



Vancouver markets, said Newcap president/CEO Rob Steele, is a transformational move for his company. The other five stations to be divested saw three (*Kool 101.5 (CKCE-FM) Calgary, QX 104 (CFQX) Winnipeg, Fab 94.3 (CHIQ-FM) Winnipeg*) sold to the *Jim Pattison Broadcast Group* while *The Bear (CKQB-FM)/Boom 99.7 (CJOT-FM) Ottawa* went to *Corus Entertainment*. All 10 station purchases must be approved by the *CRTC... Kool 96.5 (CKUL-FM) Halifax* has moved from classic 1970s and '80s music to "honest and real" singer-songwriter music on the new Radio 965, said Steve Jones, *Newcap's* VP of programming. Former *Q104 Halifax* host Dominik Diamond succeeds Griff Henderson and Caroline Parker on the morning show while Colin Sweets does afternoon drive... The *CRTC* has approved *Rawlco Radio's* application to amend the licence of *up! 97.7 (CHUP-FM) Calgary* so that it no longer operates within a specialty format. At the same time, the station licence was renewed through August, 2020... A *CRTC* hearing in Gatineau Nov. 5 will look at, among other applications; the *Corus* bid to, first, acquire effective control of *The Bear (CKOB-FM) Ottawa* and its *CKQB-FM-1 Pembroke* repeater, and *CJOT-FM Ottawa*, owned by *Bell Media* but under the control of a trustee. The next step is a transfer of ownership; *Newcap's* request to complete the purchase of *CHNI-FM Saint John* from *Rogers* and, if successful, to drop the all-news format in favour of a mainstream AC format; *CAB-K Broadcasting's* application for an FM licence in Vegreville, Alberta, that would operate at 106.5 with power of 13,000 watts and program Country; *Newcap's* bid for an FM licence in Hinton at 104.9 with



power of 1,100 watts and programming Rock; and *Vista Radio's* application for an FM licence in Grand Forks, with rebroadcasting transmitters in Greenwood, Rock Creek and Christina Lake. The station would operate at 102.3 at 589 watts and program Adult Rock/Classic Rock. The deadline for submission of interventions/comments/answers is Sept. 27... *Canadian Music Week 2014* co-chairs have been announced. They are JJ Johnston, Elliott Lefko, Eric Alper and Shauna De Cartier. Lefko

is VP of *Goldenvoice Concerts* in Los Angeles, Alper is *CTV's* music correspondent, De Cartier founded Six Shooter Records in 2000 and is chair of the *Canadian Independent Music Association* (CIMA) board of directors and the vice-chair of the *Radio Starmaker Fund* board of directors, and Johnston is president/CEO of *JJ International Media/Management Solutions* and is best known for his 39 years in radio, most recently with *Corus*... Grant Berg of *Big Country 93.1 FM Grande Prairie* is one of 22 Albertans appointed to serve on the *Premier's Council on Culture*, the province's highest level of advisory and representation on cultural matters. Berg is also an artist and a previous chairman of the Art Gallery of Grande Prairie... In an item last week,





JJ Johnston

Grant Berg

we discussed certain *CBC* AM radio repeaters being discontinued. Not mentioned was that the areas -- Fermont, Sioux Lookout, Hudson, Coleman, Blairmore, Kispiox, Pemberton, Lillooet, Chase, Field and Edgewood -- with the exception of Edgewood, has service continuing on FM. A fire at the Edgewood repeater saw termination of the AM service but the town is served by another CBC FM transmitter.

•**ELEVISION**: The *CRTC* is taking a hard look at the *Shaw Communications - Corus Entertainment* relationship, seeking proof that Corus is truly independent of its parent. Corus was spun off from Shaw in 1999 with both maintaining separate listings on the *Toronto Stock Exchange*. By itself, even after the acquisition of certain BCE channels it covets, the Corus market share would be 13.4%. However, were its and Shaw's broadcast properties combined, the number is a bit more than 35%. On Nov. 5, the Commission will review Corus's \$494-million acquisition from BCE of a group of specialty channels including *Teletoon* and *Cartoon Network* (Canada)... *Statistics Canada*, reporting on television broadcasting operating revenues, says the total for 2012 was \$7.6 billion -- pay and specialty at \$4 billion, conventional private TV at \$2.1 billion and public/non-commercial at \$1.6 billion -- up 1.8% from 2011. But while pay and specialty television saw operating revenues increase 5.9% from 2011, private conventional TV fell 5.2% and public/non-commercial TV rose 1.7%. Ad revenues alone, though, saw a decline of 2.3% to \$3.5 billion, with private conventional TV ad revenues down 5.9% to \$1.8 billion. The profit margin for private TV was 0.7% in 2012 while profits before interest and taxes were \$13.9 million. Pay and specialty television posted a profit margin before interest and taxes of 23.1%, down from 24.9% in 2011. Their profits before interest and taxes amounted to \$916.6 million... Blue Ant Media launches its new Cottage Life specialty channel Sept. 4. It will program do-it-yourself, food, real estate and outdoor living, and succeeds Blue Ant's bold channel. Two days later, on Sept. 6, the new specialty channel will mark its launch with a multi-media campaign that includes a free hamburger giveaway in Central Ontario's cottage country (at Webers in Orillia) to the first 5,000 people... A benefit concert for Lac-Mégantic by Quebec artists earlier this month and taped for televising had a good news - bad news element. The good news was that all four French-language networks aired the show at the same time for maximum exposure. The bad news was that *Radio-Canada*, *TVA*, *V* and *Télé-Québec* were provided with a packaged show that gave viewers the wrong phone number. It started with 1-800 when it should have started with 1-866. The 1-800 number had nothing to do with Lac-Mégantic. Despite the error (it was later fixed through social media), \$790,000 was raised for the community, including \$310,000 from the broadcast... A news report on CTV Northern Ontario (CICI-TV Sudbury) has been found by the Canadian Broadcast Standards Council to have been unfair and violated privacy. Details on how a story of a malfunctioning furnace was contrary to the CAB and the RTDNA codes of ethics can be found at www.cbsc.ca.

EVOLVING DOOR: New GM for TV and radio at *Corus Entertainment's* Peterborough (*CHEX-TV/100.5 KRUZ-FM/THE WOLF 101.5*), Kingston (*CKWS-TV/CKWS-FM/FM96*) and Oshawa/Durham (*CHEX TV-2*) is Dave McCutcheon, promoted from senior account manager at *Corus Television Sales* in Toronto. Before that, he was GSM at *CHEX-TV Peterborough*. He reports to Mario Cecchini, head of the company's Eastern Ontario stations and president of *Corus Média...* Malcolm Dunlop, exec VP for *Rogers Media* TV programming and operations, is leaving tomorrow (Friday)... PD Jason Manning is no longer with *103.1 JACK fm/98.5 The OCEAN Victoria*. Before joining the *Rogers* stations in Victoria he was PD at *Rock 105.3 (CKMH) Medicine Hat...* Fred Hutton began as ND at *VOCM St. John's* this past Monday after a career as ND at *NTV (CJON-TV) St. John's* . He'd been there since 1990, working his way up from general assignment reporting through anchoring to assistant ND and to ND in 2008... Wayne Rorke,

after 45 years in the broadcast industry, retires tomorrow (Friday) from his GSM position at *Global Saskatoon* where he's been the last 20 years... Julie Bristow, the former executive director of studio and unscripted programming at *CBC*, has launched *Bristow Global Media* in Toronto, a specialized content creation company... Al Douglas, chief engineer at *Bell Media Kitchener/Waterloo* for the last 19 years, is no longer with the station cluster... Dave Martineau has been appointed regional sales manager for the *Evanov Radio*







Wayne Rorke

Julie Bristow

Andrew Steele

Jewel stations in Eastern Ontario/Western Quebec, *Jewel 98.5FM Ottawa*, *Jewel 107.7FM Hawkesbury*, soon-to-be launched *Jewel 92.5FM Rockland* and *Jewel 106.7FM Hudson*. Martineau joined Evanov in May at the Toronto head office. His background includes over 25 years in newspaper and digital... Changes at *X929 Calgary* see Carly Meyers move from middays to mornings as co-host, Tyler Middleton, ex of *Hot 107 Edmonton*, moving into afternoon drive and succeeding Lynch, who becomes full-time Music Director... Andrew Steele has been hired for a new position as VP, strategy at *TVO* in Toronto. Most recently, he was the founding CEO of the *Pecaut Centre for Social Impact...* Lindsay Rae is new afternoon host at *BIG 105 Red Deer*, moving from "across the street" at *L.A. Radio Group's Kraze 101.3 Red Deer* where she had morning co-host duties. Also at BIG 105, Shawn McCleary adds MD to his evening host chores...Kim Sullivan has returned to Montreal as evening host at *92.5 The Beat*. Previous career stops include evenings/weekends at *BOOM 99.7 Ottawa* and host of the *Sully Show* on *Virgin Radio Montreal*.

IGN-OFFS: Kim Calloway, 69, of cancer in Kelowna. It was just two weeks ago that *BD* reported Calloway's departure from *Q103 Kelowna* as an anchor/reporter because of health concerns putting him on a full-time disability. Calloway worked for several Kelowna stations during his 20 years in that market. Doug Thompson, who knew him well when they worked together at *CHUM/CHUM-FM Toronto*, has more to say in his comments (below)... Robert Cole, 73, in Montreal. Cole was GSM at *CFCF Montreal* in the early '80s and had a rep shop for border TV based in Montreal... Lew Wood, 84, of kidney failure in Los Angeles. Wood, who marched with Martin Luther King, covered John F. Kennedy's assassination and was a news anchor for *NBC's Today* show, began his broadcast career at the dawn of television.

Kim Calloway R.I.P.

The last picture I saw of Kim Calloway, he was all in white and wore a fedora. He looked like an honourary Kentucky Colonel. But a hip one. On August 17, he posed in a photo with his new fiancée (and long- time companion), Arlene McClelland. Prior to that joyous announcement came a sadder Facebook post from Kim: "After 50 years as a full-time radio reporter here in BC and Ontario, I am done. Health concerns are putting me on full-time disability." Then, sadly on August 22 came news that Kim had passed away at 69 of cancer.



I met Kim in the CHUM Toronto newsroom in the late '60s. Back then, he was using the air name Jim Calloway. Someone in management decided that Kim wasn't strong enough for a newsman on CHUM so Kim became Jim.

Kim was good - very good, both as a reporter and on the air. He was hip, cool, knowledgable and authorative, all at the same time. He knew the right questions and got to the heart of stories. Plus, everybody liked him.

When CHUM-FM made the switch from classical to underground radio in the summer of 1968, Kim made it known that he'd like to be on this new progressive station, and not just as a newsman. Garry Ferrier was the program director then, and he gave a bunch of us a shot. David Pritchard, who'd been the board operator and producer for New York DJ Murray The K during his short tenure at CHUM-FM, was given the all night show. David Haydu, later the legendary Geets Romo of Pete'N'Geets fame on CHUM-FM and CFNY, did all nights on Fridays as Phil Inn (at the time, his day job was working in the engineering department). I was production manager of CHUM AM and FM, and Garry let me do all night Saturdays as "The disembodied voice in the night" for nearly a year. Copywriter Larry Green got the afternoon shift. It was a highly eclectic mix of talent.



Kim was eventually given the evening shift, and CHUM newsman Jim Calloway became CHUM-FM DJ Kim Calloway. In those days, the CHUM-FM jocks could pick their own music and were encouraged to play whatever they wanted -- rock, jazz, classical, whatever. Kim (as well as the rest of the DJs) took full advantage of that and his nightly program became very popular.



CHUM-FM on-air staff, circa 1969 Standing, from left: Kim Calloway, Tim Thomas and Walter Sole. Seated, from left: Pete Griffin, David Pritchard and Larry Green.

When John Lennon and Yoko Ono came through Toronto on their way to the Montreal bed-in in May of '69, Kim took a reel-to-reel tape recorder down to the King Edward Hotel for an indepth interview with the famous duo. Kim aired it on his FM program while CHUM-AM used short interview bites on their hourly newscasts.

A couple of years ago, after Kim and I had re-connected on Facebook, I let him know that I'd just digitized his

Lennon interview tape (the late **Bob Laine** and I had been co-ordinating and digitizing the CHUM Archives). Less than 30 seconds later, I got a response: "Could you please send me a CD of that interview. I don't have a copy and I've been telling people out here for years that I interviewed John Lennon and no one believes me." Happily, I sent a CD. Kim actually interviewed the Lennons several times.

After CHUM-FM, Kim moved back west (he was born in Saskatoon) to Vancouver where he did a talk show on CKWX throughout the mid '70s and '80s. Then came the move to Kelowna in 1993 where, until 2008, Kim was a talk show host/reporter on CKOV. He became morning news anchor on Q-103 in 2009.

In 2004, Kim Calloway was a co-recipient of the Jack Webster Award for Best Reporting of the Year for the 2003 Kelowna Firestorm.

Wherever he is now, Kim will still be the hippest, coolest guy in the place. I'm so very glad I got to know him, if only for a short time.

Doug Thompson is an award-winning writer/director for radio. He can be reached at doug.t@rogers.com.