

What You Don't Know Can Hurt You!

by John Greene

July 1981
KRCL program guide

If you're like most people, you probably think that because KRCL is billed as "community radio" (it says so on the stationery), and because countless DJ's have droned ad nauseum into the microphones phrases like: "listener supported," "radio free Utah," and "your radio station," that you, KRCL aficionado, know everything there is to know about the 90.9 FM nerve center. RIGHT??? . . . WRONG!!!

Only now can it be revealed that a secret survey was recently conducted to find out what our listeners 'really' thought about KRCL radio. Material considered too hot for our Letters Column is presented herewith, proving once again that there are no flies on us, if you catch my drift.

The survey consisted of six very carefully selected questions, the result of countless hours of staff input, and was guided by the wise counsel of a well-known San Francisco Management firm. The listener responses reprinted for this article were by no means randomly chosen, but rather reflect the 'mainstream' attitudes found in the survey overall. As a legal security measure, the names of the respondents are not presented. This precaution will prevent unscrupulous persons from intruding upon the privacy of our testees or their loved ones still living in the old countries.

QUESTION: IF YOU COULD BE ANY ANIMAL, WHAT WOULD YOU BE?

ANSWER: "Every time I cook hamburgers on my outdoor grill, you guys go off the air. Am I the only one this happens to, or what?"

KRCL: The question of our FM signal quality and its longevity is something we're constantly fine-tuning. Some new equipment has been installed since our May Radiothon. The final solution lies with our impending relocation later this summer. Until then we suggest grilling indoors.

QUESTION: WHAT GETS YOUR GOAT MOST ABOUT KRCL?

ANSWER: "Why don't you play more Foreigner instead of foreigners?"

KRCL: This attempt to answer a one-part question with a two-part question shall not go unpunished. Actually, the criticism that KRCL broadcasts in a multiplicity of languages, none of which is English, is a common one. In reality, this is true only if one listens only to the Spanish, Greek, Asian, Polynesian, or Punk programs. All others are broadcast in the predominate tongue, the exception being the occasional tape that is played backwards. One of the many goals of KRCL is to reach out to segments of Utah's population in languages THEY can understand.

With regard to the first part of this question, while none of us knows for sure exactly what is played each and every day, it is our fervent hope that as little of it coincides with what other stations are playing, ergo Foreigner!

QUESTION: WHAT DOES THE WORD 'LOVE' MEAN TO YOU?

ANSWER: "Why should I contribute to KRCL when all they do with the money is buy records I don't like?"

KRCL: KRCL currently spends no money on records. We rely almost entirely on the volunteer programmers to supply material for their shows. This is common for many radio stations of our type. Your contributions go for much less exotic needs like electricity, rent, broadcast equipment, aspirin, etc. If you feel that we are missing the boat in terms of taste, you should investigate volunteering your own time and services. All on-air people started out as listeners who one day decided they had something to say. . . and, voila, instant DJ!!!

QUESTION: IF YOU HAD A PEN-PAL IN IOWA, HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE NON-COMMERCIAL, LISTENER-SPONSORED RADIO?

ANSWER: "I get confused -- Why can't KRCL make up its mind and be all news or all music?"

KRCL: It's always been our contention that anyone who enjoys the width and breadth of KRCL's entire format is certifiable . . . insane, that is. The fact is that KRCL's listening audience is the most varied, vibrant, and soon-to-be voluminous radio audience in all of Utah! Let's face it, we're what's happening!!

QUESTION: DO YOU THINK A RADIO STATION SHOULD BE PUNISHED FOR FAILING AN EMERGENCY BROADCAST TEST?

ANSWER: "If Hill Air Force Base absorbs a direct hit as the result of a pre-emptory nuclear strike, what noise will my receiver make if its tuned to KRCL 90.9 FM?"

KRCL: That all depends on what program you're listening to when the attack occurs. For example, assume you were listening to Saturday's 'Sagebrush Serenade' when the bomb was dropped. You would then probably hear Gary Packard spout a few "I told you so!"s, followed by an 'MX Update' . . . in which case Stan Holmes' voice would be the last thing you heard on this planet prior to meltdown. If, on the other hand, you were listening to either 'I'm So Bored,' or 'CONFUSION of Music,' unrestrained laughter might signal our demise. A word of caution: before acting on information obtained through a KRCL New Wave connection, consult a second opinion.

As you can see, the respondents had a difficult time sticking to the questions. We think you'll agree, however, that we got what we were after.

Before concluding this article, we feel compelled to print the question most often put to us:

QUESTION: CAN A RADIO STATION, KRCL, FOR EXAMPLE, BE NAMED AS A BENEFICIARY ON A LIFE INSURANCE POLICY?

ANSWER: Yes!!! Contact our Business Office for details.

July 1981 KRCL program guide cover



KRCL FM 91

Listeners Community Radio of Utah, Inc.

July



Living The Circle Of Life

LOOKING IN

July 1981
KRCL program guide



Many newcomers to the City of Salt (and some natives as well) seem to spend a lot of time bemoaning the absence of worldly views, intelligent discussions, and/or an energetic, competent community nucleus.

To these skeptics, we proudly present KRCL's July Volunteers of the Month: Carmen Boutet and Paul Wharton -- two dynamic achievers who clearly contest the notion that Salt Lake is still just a cowtown; and Linda Reeder, KRCL's staff Assistant Director of News and Public Affairs . . . a woman who has challenged blindness to win contests of her own.

CARMEN BOUTET is an analogist's nightmare . . . "good things come in small packages" . . . "a ball of fire" . . . "at six on an even" . . . but such clichés cannot touch Ms. Boutet's phenomenal approach to life. Here is a person who knows what she wants and gets it. Carmen was born in Panama City, Panama. She first visited the U.S. as an 18-year-old neoverstair student in New Orleans. After a brief hiatus here she returned to Panama, determined to return "as soon as possible." As soon as possible became as often as possible as Carmen ventured through a series of exchange programs and grants (one arranged by the wife of the U.S. Ambassador to Panama) until she settled in Utah in 1948.

As a foreign student working on her Master's degree, a housewife, and a part-time employee at a nursery school for disturbed children, Carmen remembers her first years in Salt Lake as being very difficult. "Everything was a mystery. Each professor was a challenge and going to school was very hard."

As a means of overcoming her own confusion, Carmen initiated study groups between students from far-away places and her strong sense of social commitment found a concrete manifestation. After graduation, Carmen seemed intent to defy the obvious proposition that no one person can be in two places at the same time. Her advocacy for society's "undershows" led her to the newly-forming Central City Outreach Program. She visited over 400 families in the program while also taking the time to join numerous community councils and advisory boards: Head Start, Neighborhood Council, Community Cooperative Nursery School, WCHA (where she also taught), Senior, and the Low-Income Housing Project. "My home life was very busy as I threw myself into community work and was busy all the time."

It was during a three-year period of working through the Division of Family Services with the Women's Orientation Facility (her most rewarding, yet depleting, experience) that Carmen began to internalize her focus. She now views her experience at the prison as a metaphor for her own liberation. She began to realize that her own resources were being educated as gifts to others and, through Alpha Awareness Training and other metaphysical avenues, Carmen found the impetus to withdraw from her more taxing commitments, thus freeing some time to look for exciting care for herself.

However, when Carmen heard that Stephen Hillcock was sponsoring an education radio station for the disadvantaged, she took the initiative to become involved once again, and she now serves as a KRCL Trustee.

tuition in classes in meditation, massage, vegetarianism, yoga, etc. Carmen considers herself a "Pan-American," after becoming a U.S. citizen in 1978, and she's had to develop her own "family" and support-system in Utah. As her life changes, she finds her "family" members change as well. She is a very important part of our family, and we're very happy she adopted us.

Do you sometimes open your pigtails, take a good look at the morning glory full of oyster clouds and steely thunderheads, and want to pull the covers over your head and curl up into the fetal position until the sun comes out and the sky is once again blue and full of rainbows? Do you ever feel frightened walking down a street at night, hearing steps behind you only to whirl around to confront a jigger happily gliding your way? Ever go to a strange house, full of strangers, and excuse yourself to go to the john and walk into the closest instead?

The next time something like this happens to you, think for a moment of Linda Reeder, KRCL's Assistant Director of News and Public Affairs. Linda has never seen the sky, blue or grey, she hears footsteps behind her night and day (and to her it is always night), and each room, known or not, is strange to her as sighted people move about, rearranging furniture and casually changing her points of reference.

Linda has never seen a rainbow. Linda was born blind. But Linda has sound, KRCL's sound, and for the past year-and-a-half Linda has been a music and a news & public affairs programmer, hosting the "Oldies" morning program on Saturdays and Wednesdays, and the "Handicapped" program as well as the "Inside Broadcasting" news program.

Linda was born in Roy, Utah where she attended a school for the blind until entering Roy High School's general student body. She received her A.B. in Communications from Snow College in 1974, and her M.A. in Communications from Southern Utah State College in 1977. At both schools she hosted Oldies programs. "I loved music until it turned into hard rock around 1967. It just wasn't what it used to be. So I became a trivia expert. My brothers would all use me to win contests with their friends at radio stations."

After graduation, Linda found job-hunting to be her most frustrating experience. "I applied to every radio station in Utah, even the religious stations. I left no stone unturned. One station manager told me to become a professional student and just stay in school. I should have told him to take his own advice."

work did come Linda's way, however, when she took part-time positions at KRCL and KSL. Doing Public Service Announcements and interviews, as well as answering calls during live-on-air talk programs. She also worked part-time at the YWCA (where she lives) as the night-line switchboard operator, but when she learned of KRCL and spoke with Stephen Hillcock, her outlook brightened and in December, 1979, when KRCL first went on-the-air, Linda was officially a staff member.

When KSL needed part-time help in screening calls and production work, Linda worked part-time there as well as KRCL, using public transportation, walking to and from her destinations with her collapsible cane. Doing what she loves to do most.

"I love radio. It's what I've always wanted to do. And I love working at KRCL. It's been a real honor to work at a station that gives the alternative a voice in our culture."

When people tell Linda that she cannot do something . . . her real sense of accomplishment comes when she can prove them wrong. On Saturdays, Linda would arrive at KRCL alone, on the station, put it on the air and do a two-hour "Oldies" show. She was told that she would never learn to spell-remembering tape but through persistence, she's taught herself a method that works. She's also set typewriters so that she

can type logs for live talk shows; and, for fun, Linda loves to ride a bicycle built-for-two.

Linda is leaving KRCL July 1st, to move onto another phase in her development. She says she has learned a lot here, but we've learned a lot from her as well. In this culture, where youth and physical perfection is idealized; where people are set on a numerical scale; where those less physically whole than others are shunned away in homes for the aged, or mental institutions; and where we fight at all costs to define ourselves that we won't become handicapped, or old and die, it is sometimes frightening, sometimes embarrassing, sometimes humbling to come face-to-face with our own mortality through those who are handicapped, old, or dying.

But it is also a source of wonderment when we do, and we come away from such an experience somehow more human, more whole, even prouder than we were before. We thank Linda for sharing with us that sense of surrealism.

PAUL WHARTON, KRCL's Trustee Vice President, is not solely responsible for KRCL being on the air (to single any one person out would be a big mistake), yet he can certainly take credit for instigating a series of events which ultimately led to KRCL becoming a reality.

Last month we thanked KSL for their generous support and assistance. This month we can tell you a bit more about why they are so openly affectionate. In 1968, Paul Wharton and Irene Hiale (now Paul's wife) challenged the renewal of KSL's FCC license on the grounds that the station owned a disproportionate piece of Utah's media pie; that KSL was part of a web of interrelated businesses which controlled other information outlets; and that as KSL and its affiliates were owned and operated by devotees of the LDS faith, it was logical that Salt Lake residents were being exposed to only those which supported or confirmed the LDS ideology.

These grievances went to the District of Columbia's Circuit Court of Appeals where Paul and Irene

won that his interest was rebuffed through "series" of classical, jazz, and hill-billy music.

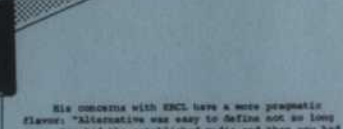
After Harvard (I have 3/4's of a degree in math.) came the service and for three years we could find Paul broadcasting over the Armed Forces Network from his German base.

What was hard to find upon his return stateside and he agreed to move to Idaho Falls, Idaho, to work with his brother on a nuclear reactor site. But Paul's not out to be a bureaucratic scientist so, after piling his car with his radical thoughts and earthly possessions, he set out for California's more tolerant climate. While driving through Salt Lake, the car gave out and Paul has been here ever since. "I still haven't made it to California."

Paul then turned to Law School, reasoning that lawyers have the technical skills to get into court to solve the problems that plague us all. "Even when the political system fails, you can still address your grievances through the judicial forum."

Recognizing that there is a real danger of entering law school as a clear-thinking radical revolutionary, and emerging as a button-downed, hair-washed establishment practitioner, Paul called on Hiale to keep him on the right path, and credits her for his retention of ideals of human decency.

He has a long-range view of the world and sees that the problems today are the same as they were 3,000 years ago. "There have been wars and what are we going?"



His concerns with KRCL have a more pragmatic flavor. "Alternative was easy to define not so long ago. You had the established media and then you had Pacific. It's harder now, but KRCL differs from the established media in that it breaks down the barriers that prevent the human community from sharing basic emotions. All radio stations have an obligation to teach, but KRCL is the only one who really does train handicapped, minorities, and women."

"KRCL also serves another purpose . . . it keeps the FCC more honest in its approach to deregulating the airwaves. When you live in a mass society, you can communicate only through a mass communication system. If that system lies, then you must have a way to get other information. The LDS culture is not the only culture in the world, nor is it the only view of culture in the world."

"My first concern about KRCL was: Are the people of Salt Lake ready for a station like this; and will they support it? Our radiofiles have shown that the people are ready and will support another view of the world."

Paul is now busy working with the Utahns Against Smokey and pending litigation will no doubt keep him away from the station. We welcome his visits, however, so just drop by, if only to share in his love of language, indigenous flora and fauna, and his refreshingly cynical stance at the foibles and follies of local, national, and international happenings.

Paul is a self-described radio "fixer" from Needham, Massachusetts, where he attended Joseph St. Joseph's high school also radio. His interest and love of radio runs deep and he fondly remembers listening to the old radio mysteries and the Grand Old Opry on his brother's ancient crystal set.

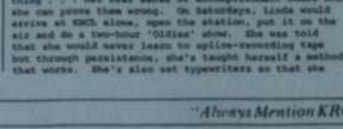
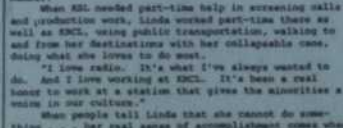
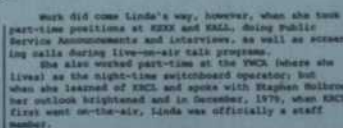
When radio turned to a commercial music format in the '50's, Paul tuned out and it wasn't until he worked as a student music programmer volunteer at Harvard's

From left to right:
Carmen Boutet, KRCL Trustee;
Linda Reeder, KRCL Staff
Assistant Director of News
and Public Affairs; and
Paul Wharton, KRCL Trustee
Vice President.

Carmen sees KRCL as the voice of ethnic, low-income, and/or disadvantaged peoples. She hopes that KRCL can inform these groups about the workings of the system in which they live so that they can enjoy real quality of life.

Carmen now sees herself in a transitional period . . . moving from the bureaucratic and political arena to a more universal world of holistic health care. "I am a starter . . . I like to develop projects and then pass them on."

Currently she is helping to form an alternative Wholistic University where students may barrier for



"Always Mention KRCL. • It Identifies You!"