**Radio craziness from my tape collection**

The following material (mostly from the 1970’s) was saved by me at a time when I was both working in radio and actively collecting music off of broadcasts.

**1)The switch of WNCN to WQIV:** WNCN was a premiere commercial classical music station in New York City. It was once part of a network of stations including WBCN in Boston and WHCN in Hartford. It was the last pillar in this radio network to fall to the pressure of Rock music moving over to the now more popular FM band. WNCN was purchased and on November 7, 1974 at Noon, the format was suddenly shifted from the Classics to Quad Rock. I recorded the transition which was poorly executed The NCN staff chose the Mozart Requiem for their last piece, the WQIV board operator, apparently unfamiliar with the piece, cut off the last section and then the WQIV announcer played “Roll Over Beethoven.” Lawsuits followed. The station went back to classical music but eventually the station went to classic rock.

**2) Recording a bad day for a board operator.** I forget when this occurred but I was in the process of recording a Boston Symphony Orchestra concert from Tanglewood off of Radio Station WFCR in Amherst, Massachusetts. In the middle of the broadcast, a board operator got confused between the Audition and Broadcast circuits and began to practice her announcing over the concert broadcast. It was bad enough but then she used the work “bull----.” Naturally, I scrapped the concert recording but saved the blooper.

**3) The French Announcer:** I can only surmise what happened here. Back in the 70’s the French Consulate produced a one hour program of French classical music for radio. They were pressed onto transcription 12” transcription discs. The program contained announcements in English and the music was almost always taken from commercially available recordings. The regular announcer spoken excellent English with a slight French accent. But apparently, he went on vacation. The producers brought in a substitute who, I guess, they though was fine, but his presentations were hilarious.