



# ANTIQUE RADIO CLASSIFIED



VOLUME 14

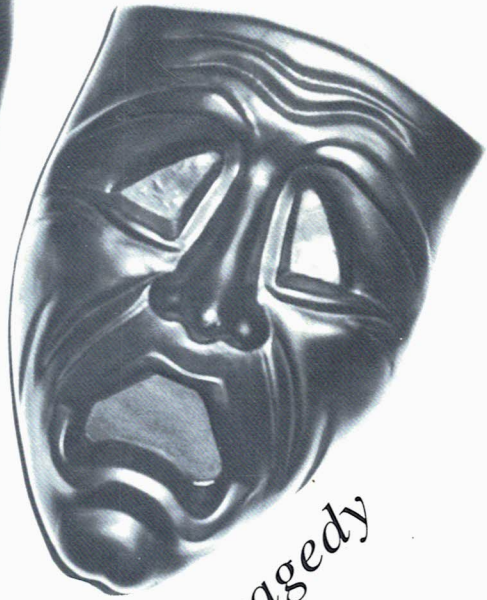
OCTOBER 1997

NUMBER 10



*Comedy*

# MASKED SPEAKERS



*Tragedy*

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A.R.C. — THE NATIONAL PUBLICATION FOR BUYERS AND SELLERS  
OF OLD RADIOS AND RELATED ITEMS — PUBLISHED MONTHLY

## ANTIQUE RADIO CLASSIFIED

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1/2 V	12 7/16 x 3 9/16	3 5/16 x 2 1/4	3 5/16 x 2 1/4	3 5/16 x 2 1/4	136.00	363.00	629.00*	1095.00**	37.00*
1/4	5 1/4 x 3 9/16	3 5/16 x 2 1/4	3 5/16 x 2 1/4	3 5/16 x 2 1/4	69.00	184.00	319.00*	555.00	19.00*
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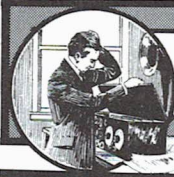
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# ANTIQUE RADIO CLASSIFIED



## EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Perhaps when this issue popped out of your mailbox you did a double take. Tragedy and comedy among radio collectors? Well, maybe a little of the former and certainly a lot of the latter. Still, the alarm bells may have sounded! Has the managing editor confused her heretofore unannounced community theatre activities with her A.R.C. work, or even worse, has A.R.C. completely lost its focus?

None of the above, you'll be relieved to know. The fact is that our cover is an excellent illustration of how an A.R.C. issue evolves. In this case, only a few days before our deadline, the unsolicited "masked speaker" photos from Bernard Payne arrived. We were immediately taken by the excellent quality of the photos and the unusual subject.

In short, A.R.C. is quite literally our readers' magazine. It is made up of your contributions, and what gets into print depends on the quality of both your research and your photos. Occasionally, we may make article suggestions to a collector known to be interested in a particular topic, but we rarely solicit actual material.

We encourage you to request our writer's guidelines, if you have an interesting topic in mind. And we can't emphasize enough the need for good quality photos. Who knows — you may have an A.R.C. article in your head or a cover in your camera right now.

One writer who plugs away at his particular radio interests and frequently shares his experience with A.R.C. readers is Wally Worth. This month, Wally reminds us of an area of collecting often overlooked — vintage home-brew sets. His report is an insightful look into the construction and technical expertise that existed in early home workshops. The attraction then as now is that home brews cost considerably less than similar factory-built sets.

This month, Richard Arnold presents another General Electric set manufactured during the days when GE and RCA were allied — the Model K-43. A small 4-tube set, the K-43 also has an unusual tube complement and power supply circuitry.

In Part 8 of his series on tube testers, Alan Douglas describes the Hickok I-177. Alan says that this World War II vintage, military tester was obsolete almost as soon as it was made, but it is still a useful tester.

Four large events are reported this month — from Michigan, Indiana and Kentucky east to Maryland. First, Larry Babcock and Jim Clark report on the 12th Extravaganza held in Lansing, Michigan. Nearly 1,000 attended this event where the auction brought a total of over \$30,000. Top selling items in the auction were blue mirrored and Catalin sets. Rounding out the event were programs, a contest, a 3-hour social, and a flea market spanning about 250 parking spaces.

Ray Chase reports on the Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club's Radioactivity '97 in Laurel, Maryland. Rain plagued much of the outside activity, but an auction of nearly 300 lots saved the day. A Predicta television selling for \$280 was the top item in the auction.

Two Ohio clubs teamed up to hold their annual RadioRama in nearby Florence, Kentucky. Reported by Bob Sands, this growing event featured an extensive Crosley display, including the original ball from atop the antenna tower of WLW.

An annual event that Larry Babcock doesn't want to miss is the IHRS/AWA Spring Fling held in Indianapolis. Larry reports that this event features a flea market, seminars, a banquet and an auction. Informality is key at the banquet where food is available cafeteria-style.

Eugene Rippen's *Ham Price Guide* is reviewed by Ray Bintliff. Over 7,000 raw price references are given in this first price guide for amateur radio equipment.

For radio quiz fans out there, the answers to Gus Stellwag's quiz in our February issue appear this month. Gus really stumped everyone, as only one response came anywhere close to the correct answers. And, Robert Wheaton presents a novel solution to those frozen clock motors in your clock radios.

More comments on club events appear in *Radio Miscellanea*, along with feedback on articles from past issues. And *Photo Review* shows an early 2-tube receiver using a crystal detector, as well as a much later Silvertone radio/phonograph/wire recorder.

**Coming Radio Events.** Now that Radiofest XVI and the 36th AWA Conference are history, hundreds of collectors must be drooling over their purchases and looking for display space on their shelves. Some may even be trying to rationalize their purchases to their spouses, or perhaps to themselves. So collectors, put your new prizes on the shelves and move on — the events don't stop here. On to the next one(s)!

In October, there are dozens of events for collectors. For A.R.C., it will be the NEARC meet in New Hampshire and the 3-day VRPS Convention near Dallas. This latter show presents a non-typical format, which begins with *five!* auctions and ends with a flea market on the last morning. Also included are the usual banquet and contest. I hope to see many of you in New Hampshire and/or Texas in October.

Happy Collecting!

John V. Terrey, Editor

## ON THE COVER

The unusual "masked" speakers on our cover were recently found by Canadian subscriber Bernard Payne. The masks of comedy and tragedy have been symbols of drama through the ages, and so the history of these speakers is certainly appropriate. Written on the back of one of them is the inscription "Used in the lobby of Canadian Famous Players Theatres" — a well known chain of theatres in the '30s and '40s. The speakers are black, measure 13½" long x 9¼" wide, x 6" deep, and appear to be made of a composition of wood and/or papier mâché. Bernard is hoping that readers out there will provide A.R.C. with more information about these theatrical remnants of days gone by.



# HOME BREWING

## Back To The Home Brews

BY WALLY WORTH

*How did the designation "home brew" become synonymous with early home-built radios of the 1920s? One can speculate on a seemingly obvious answer. This was the era of prohibition when the term "home brew" applied to bathtub gin and clandestine home breweries. It was probably very natural for radio experimenters of that era to use the term for their own but legal pet projects.*

*Wally Worth speculates further that because of their unique character home brews will gain in popularity. His advice is to begin collecting and restoring now. (Editor)*

Well, you've heard of the movie "Back to the Future," but I'm going to discuss "Back to the Home Brews." Maybe they are the future!

What is a "home brew" anyway? Most were made before factory sets came onto the market, from parts then available, and from schematics that appeared in the many radio magazines. Very nice, well made cases were sometimes built for them. A few were never cased at all and come to us as chassis only. I say all are welcome!

As you know, these radios, built in the very early twenties or even teens, have been given short shrift up till now. However, I believe they will blossom in the near future as examples of the workmanship, ideas, layout, and skill in wiring of the time. Just as the factory-made sets and mass-produced radios of the day were (and are) rated by their looks and panel layout, these home brews should also be considered in the same light.

Oh, I know, a lot of the home brews were poorly made, stuck together with cardboard and loose wires, and were not much to look at, out-

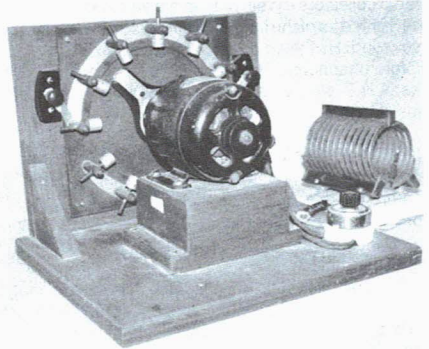


Figure 2. A home-brew rotary spark gap transmitter and an example of an oscillation coil.

side or inside. But that was true of some of the factory sets too. So, I will not dwell on those examples.

### WELL-MADE EXAMPLES

I would like to show some of the more comely examples which set themselves apart from the ordinary home brews.

Take, for instance, the very well made Navy-style loose coupler shown in Figure 1. The woodwork is excellent and done in real walnut. The binding posts are great, and the parts placement well done. As for the crystal detector, the maker even bought a Wireless Specialty Apparatus Co./SORSINC detector to complement his own efforts.

This piece is surely collectible and shows the thinking that was standard about 1921. The many taps of these switches were certainly the rage then, and even now cause one to say, "Wow!"

Again, in that time, sending was almost as rife as receiving, and I refer to the rotary spark gap transmitter, shown in Figure 2, built by a craftsman to get on the air — I'd guess about 1918 or so.

The synchronous motor (1800 rpm) turns an insulated double arm that has a shorting

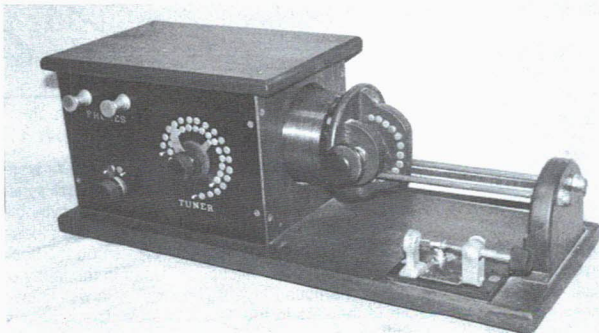


Figure 1. A well-made Navy-style loose coupler with a commercial crystal detector.

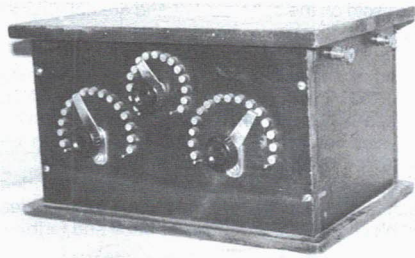


Figure 3. A home-brew replica of Armstrong's 3-circuit tuner.

bar mounted on it. The arm connects two adjustable rotating contacts at 180°. The opposing contacts are mounted on two separate half-rings, each of which is connected to output terminals mounted on insulated blocks.

The rotating, as well as the stationary contacts are zinc, of course, as was thought proper in those days. This setup was known as "The Ring of Fire" from the display it made when in operation.

This whole setup reflects thinking that was almost universal back then. It gives us insight into the maker's mind, and comments favorably on his ability and his desire to craft the whole rig.

The oscillation coil with its special clips to tune the inductance is a little small for the spark gap, but I included it to show the type of coil used with it. It is not original to the other equipment.

### SOME EARLY REPLICAS

The home brew replica of Armstrong's 3-circuit tuner (about 1913) was made by a later craftsman in 1928, as shown in Figure 3. Whoever he was, he apparently hewed strictly to the layout and schematic of the original Armstrong device. How many have seen an original Armstrong 3-circuit tuner? These original tuners were almost always separate from the actual detector in those early days and were sold as separate items.

Although made in 1928, this replica gives us insight into the thinking, layout, and construction of a 1913 set — the days before many factory sets were available. The cabinet is of 1/2" mahogany, and the lid is screwed on tight — no hinges here!

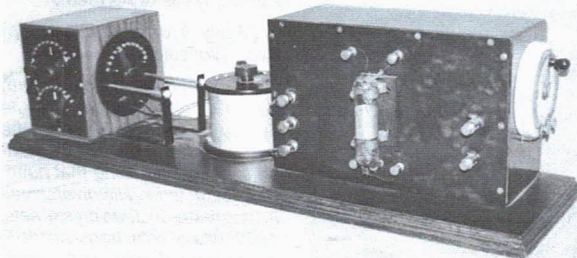


Figure 4. A reproduction Clapp-Eastham loose coupler, at left, used with a variable condenser and a tubular audion detector.

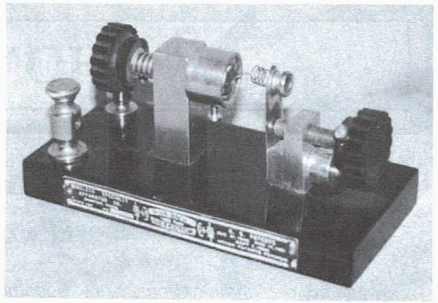


Figure 5. A replica Wireless Specialty Apparatus Co. (WSA) galena detector.

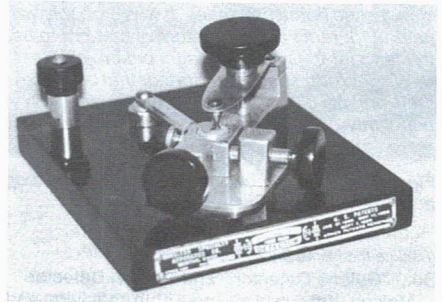


Figure 6. A replica WSA silicon detector.

Figure 4 shows a reproduction Clapp-Eastham loose coupler, a table-mounted Murdock variable condenser, and a tubular Audion detector-stand, all mounted on a board. This assemblage is the result of an even later effort to assemble a home brew, ca. 1925.

The loose coupler is an excellent reproduction of the popular tuner from Clapp-Eastham. The variable condenser is an original Murdock table-mounted style, and the De Forest Audion detector appears to be assembled from all old parts and is true to form and dimension.

Some might think this construction is a desecration and therefore demeans the whole assembly. However, it does show the number of parts that had to be assembled to make a complete radio, as well as the lengths the craftsman had to go to receive "voice and music."

### CONTEMPORARY REPLICAS

The crystal detectors, shown in Figures 5 and 6, are a contemporary pair of replicas, which I made myself after realizing I probably would never be able to own original artifacts such as these. Their bases are 3/4" thick Bakelite; the metal tags show "Wireless Specialty Apparatus

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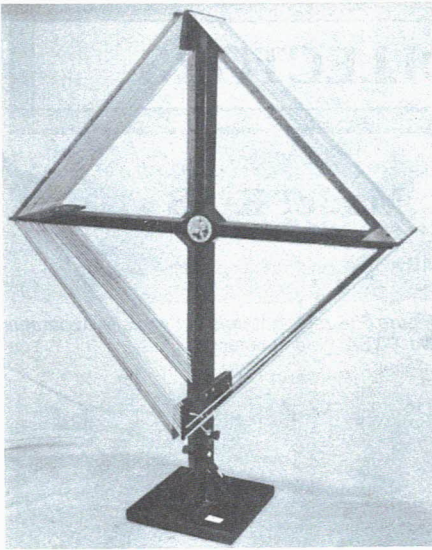


Figure 7. A home-brew version of a Federal loop antenna.

(Back to the Home Brews, continued)

Co.," "Galena Detector," and "Silicon Detector."

Making these replicas was both satisfying and challenging. Notice, I call them "replicas," and not

"home brews," as they are copies of articles that were sold on the open market and are not original creations.

The silicon detector has 2 knobs on finely threaded shafts that push the block containing the silicon in two directions at 90° to each other. Thus, any position under the sharp point can be achieved, and the downward pressure can be controlled by the large knob on top. The tubing fastened to the block contains a spring-loaded shaft fastened to the rear mounting. This enables the block to move sideways or back and forth.

#### A HOME BREW LOOP ANTENNA

The Federal loop antenna, illustrated in Figure 7, was probably constructed from plans by Federal published in 1924. It is 15" on each side, 30" tall, and contains 90' of Litz wire. An 11-plate variable condenser, Federal Type 82, across the loop's terminals was recommended.

Some of the early Federal sets were available as separate units, and you could choose to make a set with tuner, detector or AF amplifier.

#### A 4-TUBE HOME BREW RECEIVER

The 4-tube home brew that uses Type 199 tubes is shown in Figures 8 and 9. The set uses the Erla circuitry but has no Erla parts in it. This home brewer was a real independent! The wiring and layout are very well done. He wound his own coils on fibre forms, unlike most of the makers who used cardboard forms or oatmeal boxes for coils.

The choice of Type 199 tubes was unusual for a home-brew set; most builders stuck to the 01 or 01-A types. This radio was set up to use a wiring cable through the back of the set, with the terminal board inside. The case was nicely made up and required only light refinishing to present a good appearance. It appears to be pine or poplar wood with a walnut stain.

#### COLLECT THEM NOW

So you see, all home brews are not to be looked down on. If you judge these pieces on artistic merit and technical skill, they can grow on you as worthwhile items to collect. Get them while you can at reasonable prices and enjoy restoring them.

(Wally Worth, 2 West Elm Ave., Wollaston, MA 02170)

At age fifteen, Walter Worth began to save his paper route money to buy parts for 1-tube radios. Fifty years later, he started to collect anything that needed cabinet work. His diverse collecting tastes include crystal sets, 1920 battery sets, transistor radios, multiband sets, and novelty sets, as well as early tubes and horn and cone speakers.

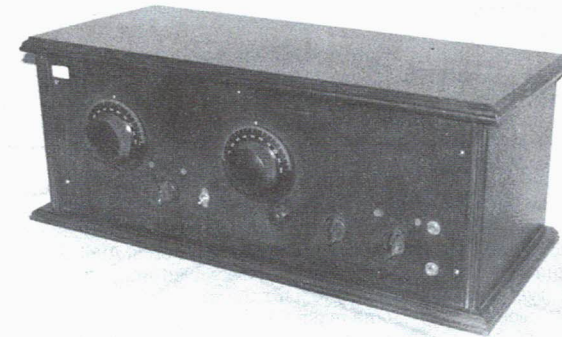


Figure 8. The front view of a 4-tube receiver using Erla circuitry.

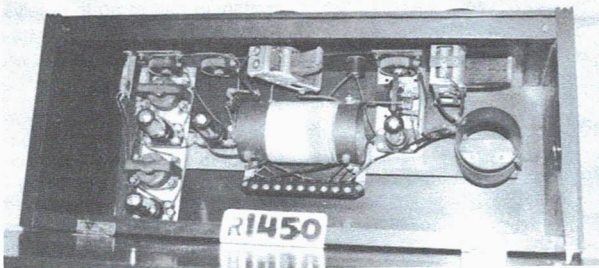


Figure 9. An interior view of the Erla copy shows its components and neat wiring.

# WITH THE COLLECTORS

## General Electric Model K-43

BY RICHARD ARNOLD

The 1933 General Electric Model K-43, shown in Figure 1, is a cathedral radio with a rather unique design. It is fairly short and squatly, measuring only 12½" x 12¾" x 6½".

This radio has the same chassis as the RCA 100 and 101. It is a 4-tube superheterodyne, incorporating such features as wide range tuning, an electrodynamic loudspeaker, a 2-point tone control, and an illuminated dial. The Model K-43 uses a 4-inch speaker and puts out 1.6 watts of "undistorted power." It has a frequency range of 540-1500 Kc for the standard broadcast band and 1600-3500 Kc for its shortwave capability. The IF is 460 Kc.

### CIRCUIT DESCRIPTION

The following description of the circuit lists several unusual design features which are incorporated into this receiver. The first tube is a combined first detector and oscillator using a Type 6A7. The RF coil is tapped so that shortwave reception can be obtained by means of a band-switch. The oscillator circuit is not tapped, but uses its second harmonic instead of the fundamental for shortwave reception.

A Type 6F7 is used in a combined IF stage and second detector. It has two sets of elements, one being used as a pentode IF amplifier and one as a triode detector. The audio output stage is conventional and uses a single pentode Type 38 tube.

The radio's power supply is unique. The power transformer has a single secondary winding that is tapped to provide the following AC voltages: 340 volts for the rectifier plate, 25.2 volts for the tube filaments that are wired in series (4 x 6.3 volts) and 6.3 volts for the dial lamp. A Type 1-V is used as a half-wave rectifier.

The four knobs, which seem to be very hard to come by, are wooden with a flower petal design. The large knob in the center is the tuning knob with pointer. The lower left knob is the on/off switch, the small knob in the center is the 2-point tone control, and the one on the right is the selector switch.

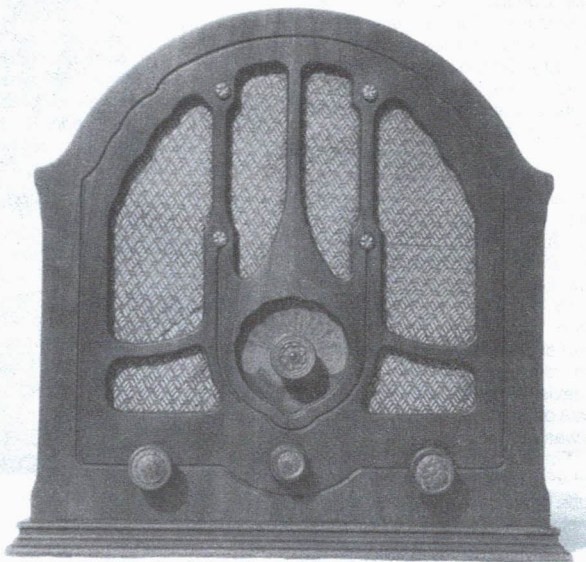


Figure 1. The GE Model K-43.

This radio is well built, and with its unusual good looks, makes an excellent addition to any cathedral collection.

(Richard Arnold, P.O. Box 275, Lone Grove, OK 73443)

Richard Arnold has been collecting radios since 1985. His interest is primarily in cathedrals and 1920s battery sets, and his collection ranges from crystal sets to a 1928 American Bosch in a Pooley cabinet. His prize is the 1932 Jackson Bell Peter Pan featured in the June 1991 A.R.C.





# VINTAGE TEST EQUIPMENT

## Tube Testers — Part 8 The Hickok I-177 and Its Predecessors

BY ALAN DOUGLAS

*This is the eighth in a series of Alan Douglas' articles on vintage tube testers. For easy reference, the previous articles appeared in the July, October, and December 1995 issues, and in the March, June, September, and December 1996 issues. (Editor)*

In my previous commentary on tube testers, I glossed over the I-177 military model, feeling that its abilities were too limited to satisfy most present-day users. Since it was designed during World War II at a time when tube types were proliferating, and since even more tubes appeared right after the war as television developed, the I-177 was obsolete almost as soon as it was made.

For example, the I-177 is limited in its ability to test miniature tube types. It can test only a few 7-pin miniature tube types and no 9-pins. Although there was an adapter made for the I-177, no updated test specs were issued after 1954. There were several commercial Hickok models that shared the same circuitry and test data, but Hickok stopped issuing information for these models in 1953.

However, for those who need to test only older tubes or who have a more modern tester to handle the new ones, an I-177 works perfectly well. I still have the one I bought about 1964 from Fair Radio Sales, which I later supplemented with a Hickok 6000A. A Model I-177-A is shown in Figure 1. The I-177 was the last in a series of Hickok models sharing the same circuitry, which began in 1936.

### PREDECESSORS

Robert Hickok made tube testers at least as far back as 1929, but a different method of measuring mutual conductance was used. Job R. Barnhart, formerly with Sterling in Cleveland in the 1920s, filed for a patent on the (to be) "Hickok" circuit on April 23, 1935. While the older Model 47 was continued until 1940, the new model AC51 with Barnhart's circuit captured most of the sales and became the foundation of Hickok's success.

In 1937, the Model AC51X, shown in Figure 2, was created by adding VOM functions to the Model



Figure 1. A view of a Model I-177-A tube tester.

AC51. The next year the T53 tube tester only was offered at \$10 less. Additional sockets and push buttons sprouted year by year, and from 1940 to 1944, these models were designated the 510X and 530, "X" denoting VOM capability.

During the war both the Army and Navy switched over to Hickok models basically similar to the 510X and the 530. The Army Signal Corps had been using the I-56 test set since 1932, incorporating a Weston and later a Triplett emission tester among its four instruments (VOM, analyzer, output meter, and tube tester). The Navy had been using two elaborate Westons — the OD (686) and the OQ. As a stopgap, civilian models were purchased from Hickok, Weston, GE, Precision, Supreme and Espy, if not others. Some were given military designations: the Hickok 550X became the Navy OZ-1 while the 530 was renamed the "I-171."

Since civilian models were hardly suited to the rigors of military life, and since the old I-56J was in dire need of upgrading, the Hickok 560 was repackaged as the I-177 and went into the new I-56K. By June 1945, the I-177 had superseded most of the





Figure 2. The Hickok Model AC51X tester is a combination VOM and tube tester.

civilian testers in the Signal Corps supply catalog.

### SWITCHING SCHEMES

This entire series of Hickok testers, including the I-177, shared the same switching scheme for selecting cathode, grid, and plate connections to the tube being tested: two 12-position rotary switches (A and B) interchanged pairs of wires until the right combination was found. This worked until there were so many new tube types and so many possible socket connections that two switches just wouldn't handle them.

The next logical step was to assign one rotary switch to each function — cathode grid, screen suppressor, plate — and let each one work independently of the others. Hickok adopted this row of five switches on all postwar models (and two more switches for the heater connections which had been handled before by multiple sockets).

So it follows that all later military testers used the Hickok arrangement, rather than the A and B switches of the I-177. The Navy got the TV-3, while the Army used the TV-7, both direct successors of the I-177. Most were not actually made by Hickok (nor were I-177s) but by Daven, Supreme, Triplett and others.

### I-177 LIMITATIONS

There was an MX-949 adapter made for the I-177 to allow testing of some later tubes, notably dual triodes like the 6SN7 or 12AU7 that can't be connected properly with the A and B switches. But since the MX-949 is hard to find, a simpler homemade adapter would work just as well. In either case, the grid signal is fixed at 5 volts AC, rather high for modern low-bias tubes, and a later tester, such as a TV-7, would be preferable.

The last (1953) Hickok data booklet for the 510-530-550 series of testers can also be used with the I-177; it lists many tubes that are not on the I-177 cards. Note, however, that the two sections of a dual triode are not tested equally; for example, in testing a 6SN7, section 1 is tested with no grid bias, and it draws three times the plate current of Section 2. This is why the dial settings are sometimes very different for "identical" sections of the same tube. In short, this "official" Hickok data must be used with caution.

*(Alan Douglas, Box 225, Pocasset, MA 02559)*

*Alan Douglas, an electrical engineer, has written over 100 articles for A.R.C. and other publications. His books "Radio Manufacturers of the 1920s," Volumes 1, 2, and 3, are highly regarded resources for the radio-collecting community.*

## Radio Clock Repair

BY ROBERT G. WHEATON

I recently acquired a nice General Electric Model 65 clock-radio and have successfully repaired the sluggish noisy clock with a technique I read about years ago. It might bear repeating for others now.

As received, the clock would not run. It responded to a light oiling of the various gear shafts, but behaved sluggishly and with a hopeless-sounding gnashing of gearworks inside the sealed unit of the Telechron motor.

Making appropriate notes to aid reassembly, I carefully removed the motor and magnetic field laminations from the rear of the clock. The sealed unit was separated from the field, and its drive shaft area cleaned of all dirt and grime.

Next, I put it in a preheated 250° oven for 15 minutes. Immediately upon its removal from the oven, I placed several droplets of light machine oil (M-10, a quality gun oil) at the shaft where it

exits the bushing. On this particular Telechron a circular dam around the bushing retains the oil.

Heating the motor causes a slight vacuum to appear as it cools — enough vacuum to pull the oil inside, right through the slight shaft-to-bushing clearance. Wow, what a clever idea someone came up with years ago!

After cooling, the motor should be placed in many different positions for several hours each to allow the oil to distribute itself on the gearworks inside. If only slight improvement is then noted, repeat the heating-oiling-distribution sequence.

As a point of reference, the field winding on my clock measured 5858 ohms. That's probably typical of what a "still good" field winding will measure.

*(Robert Wheaton, 16015 White Fawn Dr., San Antonio, TX 78255)*



# PHOTO REVIEW



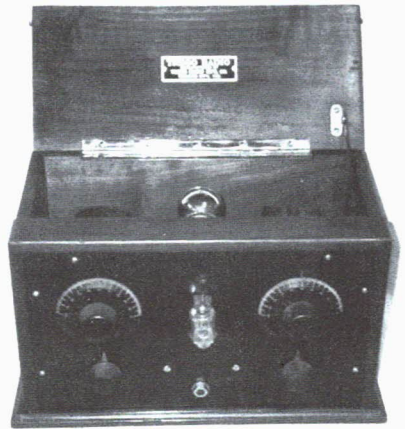
This column presents in pictorial form many of the more unusual radios, speakers, tubes, advertising, and other old radio-related items from our readers' collections. The photos are meant to help increase awareness of what's available in the radio collecting hobby. Send in any size photos from your collection. Photos must be sharp in detail, contain a single item, and preferably have a light-colored background. A short, descriptive paragraph **MUST** be included with each photo. Please note that receipt of photos is not acknowledged, publishing is not guaranteed, and photos are not returned.



**KODEX MICROPHONE SPEAKER** – This metal horn speaker was designed to resemble the early 1930's Westinghouse broadcast microphone. The electric dealer sign, shown on the left, lights up to advertise this distinguished looking speaker, and states: "It has the whole world talking." (Dave Crocker – Mashpee, MA)



**SILVERTONE MODEL 8086** — This 1949 Silvertone radio-phonograph-wire recorder (sold by Sears Roebuck) operates on BC band only. The tube types are: 35Y4 (2), 50A5 (2), 7C6, 14Q7 and 1280. (Wayne Cole – Sherman, TX)

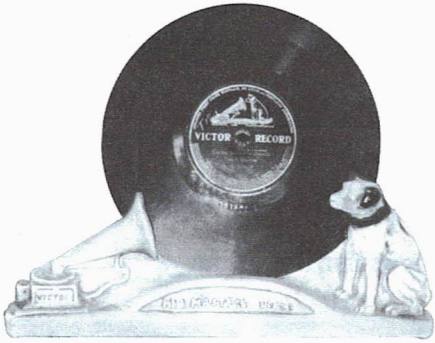


**TREGO CRYSTAL RECEIVER** – Made by the Trego Radio Mfg. Co., Kansas City, Mo., this crystal receiver has a 2-step amplifier. Nellie Trego was a young widow with a child who made a success in the business world through hard work. (Ed Bell – Raleigh, NC)

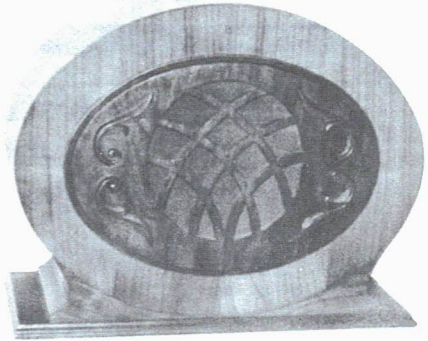
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## PHOTO REVIEW

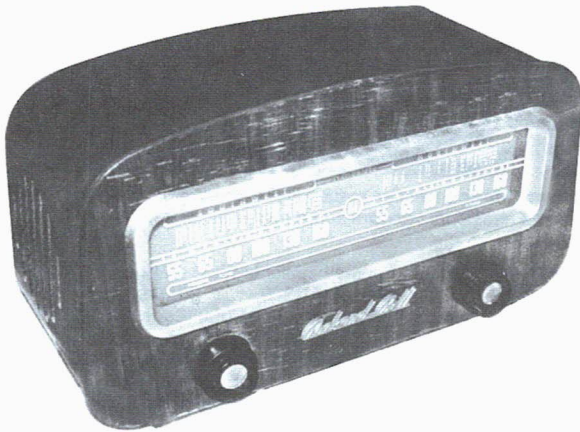
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**VICTOR RECORD DISPLAY** – This advertising piece, probably made for in-store use, appears to be made of chalk, and features the familiar Nipper and Victor phonograph. (Mitch Colby – Bronx, NY)

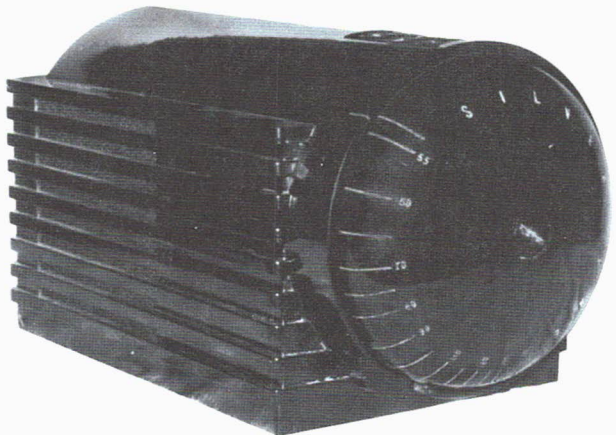


**STROMBERG-CARLSON NUMBER 18 DYNAMIC SPEAKER** – This speaker was with a 1924 Stromberg-Carlson Model 1A battery set when found. Its first patent date is January 21, 1913. (Jon Steinhauser – Hewlett, NY)



**PACKARD BELL MODEL UNKNOWN** – The oversized dial on this table model was used from 1947 through 1949. The left dial is dedicated to Southwest stations by call letters, while the right dial covers Northwest stations. The set has speakers on each end of the cabinet. (Fred Geer – Jacksonville, FL)

**SILVERTONE MODEL 6110** – This 1938 model looks like a vacuum cleaner. It has 5 tubes — (2) 6K7s, (1) 6J7, (1) 25A6, and (1) 1V rectifier — (6) push buttons on top, and a 5-inch dynamic speaker. Note how the huge dial dominates the novel design of the cabinet. (Frank Abbato – Peach Bottom, PA)



# MEET AND AUCTION REPORT

## Michigan Antique Radio Club Extravaganza '97 Lansing, Michigan — July 11-13, 1997

CONTRIBUTED BY LARRY BABCOCK AND JIM CLARK

The Michigan Antique Radio Club (MARC) held its 12th annual Extravaganza in Lansing, Michigan, at the Holiday Inn South Convention Center from July 11 to 13, 1997. The theme of this year's event was "Radios of the World." Continuing to expand in size and scope, Extravaganza has become one of the largest antique radio shows in the world. The 382 families registered from 30 states and Canada, combined with other guests and visitors, made the total attendance between 800 and 1,000.

The flea market, held in the large auxiliary parking lot south of the hotel, had 248 spaces occupied by sellers. Again this year, MARC offered 8' vendor tables under its 40' x 60' tent in the middle of the flea market. The tent was also used for registration and hospitality — free refreshments were offered throughout the 3-day event.

Understanding that a flea market is the biggest draw to a meet, MARC gives it major attention by making over 300 spaces available without limit at a very reasonable price. Another nice feature was the availability of "table watchers" for a nominal fee.

A huge auction, conducted by professional auctioneer Rich Estes, capped Friday's activities. Of the total of 295 items offered for auction, 268 were sold, with the minimum bid set at \$20. Sales totalled almost \$33,000.



*In addition to the open air flea market in the foreground, the tent in the rear housed additional vendors and a registration/hospitality center.*

Among the highlights were an Emerson Catalin, selling at \$1,300, two Sparto 557 mirror radios, at \$1,300 and \$1,000 respectively; a Mir-Ray mirrored radio at \$1,100; a Kadette Clockette green Catalin radio at \$1,000; a trophy baseball radio at \$1,000; an Emerson Model AU-190 tombstone Catalin at \$925; an Amrad 2596/2634 double decker at \$900; a large Addison Catalin at \$800; and perhaps the bargain of the day — a Philco 38-690 console, complete and in very restorable condition for only \$425.

A previous owner of the Mir-Ray peach mirrored radio was overheard to say that it had originally been purchased at a flea market for \$2!

Among the other events were four interesting programs: the Pilot Radio Company with Bill Moore; the Voice of Music story with Gary Stork; Tape Recorder Repair with John Reinicke; and Hints and Kinks and Refinishing Techniques with Mark Oppat and Charley Bradley.

Saturday included a superb equipment contest, two exhibits, and a great social hour, extending from 7 to 10 P.M. This is a free, come-as-you-are event and is heavily attended. Bob Lozier concluded the festivities with an excellent slide presentation on collecting activities in Italy.

On Sunday, the lively donation auction garnered \$1,140 for the club. Clubs should not dismiss this activity as a means of raising money to

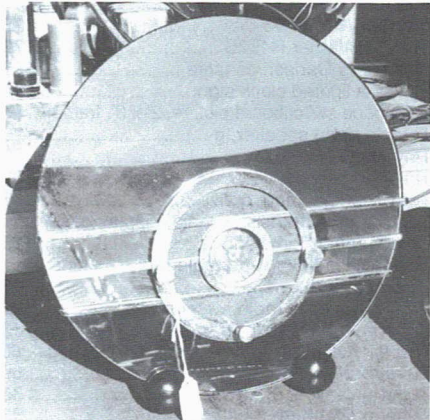
**A warning:** Auction prices are not current values. A listing such as this cannot adequately include the condition of cabinets, chassis, transformers, tubes, the operating status of the set, and the inclusion of incorrect, restored or replica components, etc. Auction prices are the result of the excitement of the auction process, the skill of the auctioneer and the specific interests of the participants. Nevertheless, auction prices serve as useful references and as another element in the value determining process. The possibility of error always exists, and if we are notified, corrections will be reported.

offset their expenses. It encourages sellers to bring more items, especially parts, etc., to shows, and they will have fewer items to take back home.

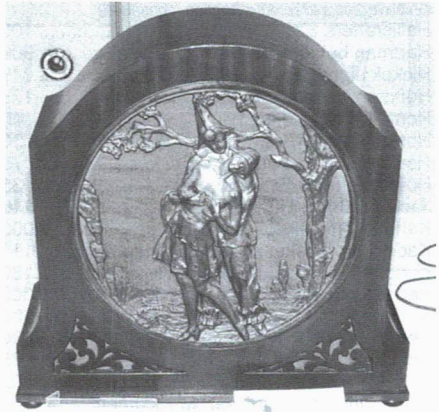
MARC wishes to thank all those who attended Extravaganza '97, in addition to the many volunteers who contributed to its success. Be sure to mark the dates for next year's event — July 10-12, 1998.

e=excellent, vg=very good, g-good, f-fair, p=poor, unk=unknown, N.I.B.=new in box, NT=no tubes, WT=with tubes, PB=push buttons, nwk=not working, wk=working, PS=power supply

Acmeflex, WT .....	\$45
Addison portable radio, marbledized .....	35
Addison R581, nwk .....	120
Addison, black marbledized, Catalin, vg .....	800
Airline "Concord" console, f .....	55
Amrad 2596/2634, double-decker, no screens, g .....	900
Amrad S5220 console, WT, and Crosley Musicone speaker .....	45
Arborphone 27, WT, g .....	85
Arborphone, w/loop, f .....	20
Atwater Kent 55C, in Kiel table .....	285
Atwater Kent 545 and RCA Radiola 20 .....	175
Atwater Kent 944, wooden, wk, g .....	175
Atwater Kent cathedral, battery, vg .....	200
Atwater Kent cathedral, refinished .....	225
Atwater Kent F-4 speaker, black, wk .....	40
Atwater Kent variocoupler, w/knob .....	65
Australian table, white Bakelite, g .....	110
Atwater Kent lamp, no shade, AK logo, 2' tall ...	85
Automatic, Bakelite, crack, wk .....	140
Belmont tombstone, g .....	55
Book: <i>Radio Enters the Home</i> , orig., 1922 .....	40
Book(s): <i>Bell System Tech Journal</i> , 52 vols. ...	40
Bristol Audiophone speaker, e .....	125
Coca Cola cooler radio, wk, big piece of case missing on side, 3" x 4", g .....	200
Coronado 907, wooden .....	25
Crosley 4-29, g .....	95
Crosley 5-50, w/5 good 01-As, g .....	45
Crosley 127, wk, g .....	95
Crosley Bonzo, original .....	400
Crosley console, small, .....	135



From the flea market, a Sparton Bluebird with an asking price of \$3,000.



This unusual cone speaker won second prize in the speaker category of the equipment contest.

Crosley Fiver, g .....	55
Crosley Gemchest console, no speaker .....	55
Crosley Musicone speaker, f-g .....	45
Crosley RFL 75, g .....	35
Crosley sign, 20" high x 6' wide .....	85
Crosley Trirdyn Super Special .....	65
Crosley V, WT .....	95
Dahlberg pillow radio, w/bracket, (2) .....	70, 75
David Grimes battery set, vg .....	175
DeForest variable capacitor, cracked base, repro dial .....	22
Detrola cathedral, w/clock .....	250
Detrola cathedral, g .....	200
Dictograph loudspeaker, gold bell, stress cracks ...	105
DuMont RA103 TV, 1948, needs restoration ...	65
Eastman pocket radio, w/box .....	25
Echophone cathedral, g .....	90
Eico 66 tube tester .....	40
Ecko tombstone, British, Bakelite, g .....	189
Electrahome jewelry box radio, Canadian (?) ..	80
Emerson 334, g .....	40
Emerson 354 Ingraham cabinet .....	45
Emerson 503 table, wooden .....	55
Emerson 595 .....	65
Emerson AU-190, green Catalin, chip .....	925
Emerson Catalin .....	1,300
Fada Catalin .....	400
Garod Catalin, butterscotch, g .....	575
GE E-161 cathedral, slide dial, g .....	75
GE M61 tombstone .....	75
General cathedral, g .....	190
Gilfillan tombstone, g .....	135
Global GR900 transistor radio .....	45
Global transistor radio, portable .....	35
Gloritone cathedral, f-g .....	55
Goodyear, white Bakelite, unk .....	145
Grebe, 5-tube, AC/DC .....	45
Grundig 4070U, e .....	27
Grunow tombstone, g .....	145
Guild telephone radio, wooden .....	40
Guild Town Crier .....	65
Hallicrafters Sky Buddy .....	55

(Continued on following page)

(Extravaganza Meet and Auction, continued)

Halicrafters SX99, w/speaker, g .....	100
Hartman battery set, nice .....	300
Hickok signal generator, wk .....	45
Hoffman transistor radio, portable, mint .....	175
Home brew, foreign, f .....	40
Home brew TRF, g .....	20
Howard 768, table .....	75
Howard chairside, w/phono .....	35
Jackson Bell 20 cathedral .....	110
Kadette Clockette, Catalin .....	1,000
Kadette Jr. pocket radio, WT .....	110
Kadette Jr. pocket radio, in box .....	185
Kadette pocket radio, crack .....	300
Kadette, g .....	200
Kent crystal set, N.I.B. ....	30
Knight radio, amp, pre-amp, (3pc) .....	125
Kodel C-12, g .....	65
Leon Lambert crystal set, w/document .....	200
Light bulb, 1900, very large .....	200
Little Wonder microphones, (2), 1 w/box .....	40
Loose coupler, crystal detector added .....	85
Majestic 20 tombstone .....	85
Majestic 1058X console .....	55
Marconi 78, Canadian .....	45
Midget cone speaker, in box, 5" deep .....	200
Military BC453B .....	35
Military BC645A .....	55
Mir-Ray peach glass radio, 1935, no chips or cracks .....	1,100
Mirrortone Catalin .....	350
Mitchell Lumitone lamp radio, w/shade .....	85
Motorola 5T22, g .....	30
Motorola TV, early 7" .....	60
Music Master horn speaker, wooden bell .....	190
Music Master horn speaker, wooden bell, wk .....	175
Music Master horn, wooden, wk, g .....	150
Music Master midget clock radio, 1937, wk, clock nwk .....	475
Music Master w/spruce horn, e .....	525
Norden Electric 630R .....	20
Novelty sets, cars, (3), stage coach, (1) .....	42
Olympic 6-501W table, black plastic .....	30
Orchestron horn speaker, base cracked, vg ...	350
Patterson Allwave .....	300
Peerless cathedral, and RCA drum speaker .....	25
Philco 20 cathedral, f-g, (2) .....	65, 85
Philco 37-640 console, wk .....	80
Philco 37-84 cathedral, g .....	65
Philco 38-10, g .....	35
Philco 38-690 20-tube console .....	425
Philco 41-250 table, wooden, PB .....	20
Philco 48-460 .....	32
Philco 66 tombstone, g .....	60
Philco 70 cathedral, g .....	150
Philco 81 cathedral .....	60
Philco advertising sign, mint .....	400
Philco Jr. cathedral, g .....	75
Philco lighted sign, late 1920s .....	205
Philco PT69, w/clock .....	105
Philmore cathedral crystal set, metal .....	145
Philmore crystal set, w/box, e .....	90
Pilot cathedral, vg .....	245
Qualitone loop antenna .....	110
Radiocraft crystal set kit, in box .....	40
RCA chair, chrome/white plastic .....	85
RCA portable, similar to Trans-Oceanic .....	55
RCA 66X8, red Catalin, small chip on back ...	525



At first glance this 7-tube Crosley might be mistaken for an Atwater Kent Kiel table.

RCA Radiola 100 drum speaker, wk, g .....	30
RCA Radiola 100A speaker, g .....	20
RCA Radiola 106 console tapestry speaker ..	115
RCA Radiola III, WT, g .....	85
RCA Radiola V, no cover or base, NT .....	90
RCA sign, black and chrome, 12" x 42", vg .	105
RCA tin sign, 2' x 3', N.I.B. ....	55
RCA Tung-Sol tube caddies, (2) .....	25
Remler portable radio, Scotty dog, g .....	55
Rocket crystal set, N.I.B., small .....	50
Ross (?), Japanese smoker radio, w/lighter ...	50
Scott Allwave 12, w/SW coils, no cabinet, wk ..	115
Setchell-Carlson table, frog eye, plastic .....	20
Signal Electric learner key set .....	40
Silver-Marshall tombstone .....	75
Silvertone 1828, recapped .....	60
Slide crystal set, w/papers .....	60
Snyder horn speaker .....	55
Sonora, metal cabinet .....	25
Sparton 557 blue mirror radio, (2) ..	1,000, 1,300
Sparton 930 console, g .....	75
Sparton 5050 .....	45
Stewart-Warner 03-5A1 .....	75
Stewart-Warner R452S .....	70
Stromberg-Carlson console .....	325
Sylvania lighted clock sign .....	45
Telephone switchboard picture, 2' x 3', framed ..	20
Temple drum speaker, g .....	20
Tiny Tim, N.I.B. ....	30
Tiny Tone crystal set, N.I.B., w/papers, e ...	100
Tom Thumb hybrid, g .....	115
Toshiba early transistor radio, display case, 30" sphere on stand .....	115
Toshiba TM2855(?) portable radio, hairline cracks .....	45
Trophy baseball radio, w/script, vg .....	1,000
Tube(s): (3)WE 101, 102;(2) open fil., (1) g ...	45
Tube(s): Arcturus blue 01-A in orig. boxes (4), g ...	60
Tube(s): Myers, in box .....	60
Tube(s): Navy 215, (2) .....	35
Tube(s): Northern Electric 212D .....	35
Tube(s): RCA 861 .....	50
TV magnifier on floor stand, vg .....	40
USL UA5, NT .....	25



Catalin radios for sale in the flea market at the Michigan meet.

Vogue picture records, (11), album, g .....	620
Western Electric 10D horn speaker, g .....	85
Westinghouse Aeriola Sr., NT, g .....	120
Westinghouse 304 console, f .....	35
Westinghouse 502, Canadian .....	35
Westinghouse refrigerator radio, g .....	55
Wilcox-Gay, g .....	115
Zenith 5G547 .....	60
Zenith 5H40 Trans-Oceanic .....	40
Zenith 6D29 .....	45
Zenith 10S567, g .....	75
Zenith 10S668 console .....	75
Zenith 12H094 console, nice .....	35
Zenith 500 transistor radio .....	35
Zenith 3000 Trans-Oceanic, nwk .....	60
Zenith console, 1931, PB .....	700
Zenith dry cell battery box, w/PS built in .....	40
Zenith New Deal photo, original, framed .....	105
Zenith plastic sign, 3' x 6' .....	20
Zenith radio/phono, plastic case, 1951 .....	105
Zenith Royal D7000 Trans-Oceanic .....	155
Zenith sign, 3' X 6', plastic, lights, g .....	20
Zenith spinette console, 1941, VP .....	25
Zenith tombstone, f .....	125
Zenith Trans-Oceanic, (2), and RCA portable .....	135



This Sea Tone horn speaker took third place in the speaker contest category.

(Larry Babcock, 8095 Centre Ln., East Amherst, NY 14051; Jim Clark, 3520 Okemos Rd., #6, Okemos, MI 48864)

For information on the Michigan Antique Radio Club (MARC), contact Brenda Clark, MARC, Suite 100, 3520 Okemos Rd., #6, Okemos, MI 48864. MARC publishes "The Michigan Antique Radio Chronicle" quarterly. Dues are \$12. In addition to the annual Extravaganza event, the club holds quarterly meets.

## Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club Radioactivity '97 Laurel, Maryland - June 12-14, 1997

CONTRIBUTED BY RAY CHASE

The Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club (MAARC) held its annual Radioactivity on June 12-14 at the Best Western Maryland Inn in Laurel, Maryland. Unfortunately, the Friday and Saturday outdoor flea market was disrupted somewhat by periodic rain showers, causing dealers to cover and uncover their merchandise repeatedly. By auction time, flea market display tables were still overflowing, and so dealers turned to the auction

to sell their wares. As usual, the auction proved to be a highlight of this 3-day event.

A silent auction, held in the morning for lesser quality lots (many tube lots), was well attended. The bidding was cut off at 11:45 A.M. which resulted in some spirited written competitive bidding. Other bidders even hovered nearby to see if their latest bids would be challenged.

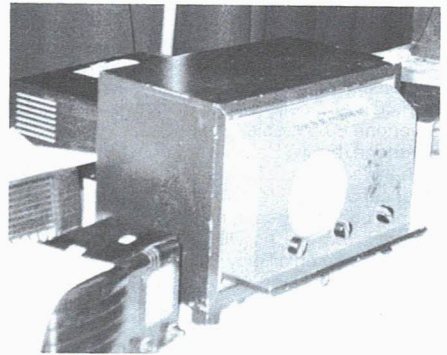
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(MAARC Meet and Auction, continued)

Conducted by Brian Belanger, the main auction commenced at noon with 271 lots presented for sale. Although no rare treasures were offered, there was a wide variety of goods for sale. Many tube lots were available, some quite huge, while other box lots sold for \$10 or less. Many restored plastic radios were passed over because bidding did not meet the seller's reserve. The following list excludes 63 lots which sold for \$10 or less. This auction concluded at 4:30 P.M.

e=excellent, vg=very good, g=good, f=fair, p=poor, BBT=brass-based/tipped, N.I.B.=new in box, NT=no tubes, WT=with tubes, nwk=not working, wk=working, PB=push buttons

Admiral 95-7 lyre grille, wrong chassis, nice	\$50
Admiral white plastic, curved end	95
Air King table, slant front, 1938, g	45
Atwater Kent cone speaker for internal cabinet mount	20
Atwater Kent tombstone, 4 knobs, missing 1, clean	120
Ambassador battery set, NT, nice	50
Atwater Kent 20 compact, NT, f	35
Belmont, white plastic	90
Bendix 10" TV, w/doors	15
Bogen intercom unit, Deco, plastic, w/2 remotes	40
Book(s): NRI Radio Course, (2)	20
Book: <i>Radio Boys Forest Ranger</i> , w/dust cover, p	22
Boonton capacitance bridge, w/manual	25
Bosch cone speaker, g	35
Bosworth 3 dialer, slant front, WT, nice	70
Card-o-Matic tube tester, g	70
Coin-Op table, wooden, 3 knobs	30
Coke cooler radio, cracked, poor paint	160
Collins MBF transceiver, military, f	80
Crosley "dashboard" radio, w/crack, p	15
Crosley 51, WT	100
Crosley Dynacone speaker	18
Cunningham back-lit tube sign, damaged	30
Day-Fan battery set, WT, vg	70
Dumont RA-346 clock radio	55
Emerson 25-A table, small, wooden, w/red velvet lined carrying case, vg	190
Emerson 520 Catalin, no cracks	90
Emerson 711 brown plastic, wrong knobs	22
Emerson EL415	36
Federal 1540T table, oriental design, g	100
GE Bakelite table TV, 8" or 10", compact, g	85
GE Plaskon, marbled white, w/back	130
"GE Tubes-Stand Up" cardboard dealer display sign, '50s	45
German WWII meter in small wooden box	38
Ginger ale can novelty transistor radio in original box	16
Gloritone cathedral, 3 knobs, nice	90
Grundig Satellite 5000 portable	45
Guild "Country Belle" phone radio, wk	24
Hallicrafters SX-16, no cabinet, g	80
Hallicrafters SX-17, vg	150
Hallicrafters SX-28, no cabinet, p	90
Harvey Wells Bandmaster, modified	20
Hickock 536 tube tester, vg	75
Magnavox cone speaker, drum style	24



This 1940s Federal Model 1540T oriental design radio brought a bid of \$100. (This Federal was not manufactured by the older Federal Telephone & Telegraph Co. of Buffalo, New York.)

Majestic Treasure Chest, plus parts set	90
Meissner Signal Shifter	22
Mikes and headphones, (2)	20
Military BC 906 WWII frequency meter	12
Music Master battery set, slant-front, NT, clean	65
National 100 A, w/paper, g	90
Novelty mike radio, Radio Station WMAR, g	95
Novelty transistor radios, (4)	22
Pabst beer can novelty transistor radio, in original box	14
Philco 10" TV, floor model, vg	15
Philco 37-60 cathedral, stains on front, g	60
Philco 37-630 table, wooden, 4 knobs, g	65
Philco 38-10, Deco, missing 1 tube	50
Philco 42-350 table, wooden, 4 knobs, PB, g	40
Philco 49-1401, w/slide-in record player	45
Philco farm tombstone, 4 knobs, f	45
Philco Predicta TV, wooden, w/remote picture tube, f	280
Philco Predicta-style clock radio	22
Philco table, slope-front, wooden, PB, g	25
Pilot TV magnifier, small, g	75
Precision 920 tube tester, wooden case, w/paper	40
Radio Shack novelty transistor radio	21
RCA "Little Nipper," g	31
RCA 56X5 table, wooden	20
RCA 75X11 table, plastic, g	15
RCA 85T plastic, 2 knobs	12
RCA chairside, large chassis, g	55
RCA Nipper small figurine advertising piece, "His Master's Voice"	40
RCA Radiola 17, NT	35
RCA Radiola 60, WT, foot missing, rust inside, p	75
RCA Radiola Super VIII, w/2 drivers for internal horn speaker	24
RCA Radiola Super VIII loop antenna, f	11
RCA solid state scope	24
RCA tombstone, 3 knobs, ornate	45
Reading Time book-style transistor radio, w/clock, vg	45
Realtone 4-band transistor radio, N.I.B.	75
Remco Caravelle kit radio, in box, f	10



SAAL horn, wk, vg.....	150
Scott power amp, PS chassis only, 4 tubes .	100
Setchel-Carlson, frog's eye design, NT .....	30
Shure desk mike .....	65
Sign, "On Air," ceiling mount, edge lit.....	45
Silvertone 60-51 table, g .....	22
Silvertone, brown Bakelite, 2 knobs, PB, handle on top .....	34
Solar capacitor tester, wooden case .....	11
Sonora bed lamp radio, no diffuser, f .....	12
Sonora brown plastic, PB .....	150
Standard Micronic Ruby, in box, like new .....	85
Supreme Vedolyzer, scope plus VOM in wooden case, g .....	50
Telefunken Allegro postwar table, nwk, large	44
Telefunken Picolo transistor radio, w/clock, SW .....	45
Teletone table 6" TV, 3 knobs missing, g .....	40
Truetone brown plastic, 1947, PB .....	85
Tube(s): 199 (4), WD 11 (7), g .....	260
Tube(s): Arcturus Blue 27, (7), g .....	75
Tube(s): Svetlana 572B, (2) .....	16

Tube(s): UV200 BBT, (2) .....	38
Tube(s): WE 216, g fil, (2) .....	18
Welch VHF transmitter, lab demo item .....	35
Weston analyzer in wooden box .....	15
Wilcox-Gay table, tele-dial, wooden, w/5 knobs.....	45
Yeacon transistor radio, w/case .....	60
Zenith 500 transistor radio .....	25
Zenith 500 transistor, black, no leather case .	25
Zenith plastic 6D014 "boomerang," 2 knobs ..	17
Zenith plastic, 3 knobs, no dial glass .....	75
Zenith Super chassis only, parts, f .....	24
Zenith Trans-Oceanic, plays .....	50

(Ray Chase, 1350 Marlborough Ave., Plainfield, NJ 07060)

For information on the Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club (MAARC), contact Jay Kiessling, P.O. Box 67, Upperco, MD 21155. MAARC publishes "Radio Age" monthly. Dues are \$20 per year. The club holds monthly meetings, as well as the annual Radioactivity event.

## Antique Radio Club of Ohio Cincinnati Antique Radio Society RadioRama '97 Florence, Kentucky — June 27-28, 1997

REPORTED BY BOB SANDS

RadioRama, co-sponsored by ARCO (Antique Radio Collectors of Ohio) in Dayton and CARS (Cincinnati Antique Radio Society), continues to grow in attendance, and '97 was the biggest yet. Vendors from California, Texas, Florida, and New Hampshire, as well as from all the states adjacent to Ohio, enjoyed the fine weather on June 27 and 28. The host hotel was the Signature Inn in Flo-

rence, Kentucky, ten minutes south of Cincinnati. For both vendors and customers, the swap meet was a big success.

At the inception of RadioRama in 1993, it was decided to have an annual theme and display rather than hold a contest. This plan provides attendees with the chance to view a greater vari-

*(Continued on following page)*



A Crosley display which includes radios of the 1920s to the 1940s, a Crosley Temperator fan, and Crosley "Bonzo" mascots. Even the display sign is an original from a dealer.

*(ARCO and CARS Meet Report, continued)*

ety of radios, while permitting more members the opportunity to display their better radios.

This year's theme incorporated the 75th anniversary of Crosley broadcasting. An extensive display of radios, all coordinated by Peter Palm, included everything from the Crosley Model 1 crystal set to a variety of Coloradios. Memorabilia included an original paper maché Bonzo, various advertising media, the plaque from the famous 500KW-WLW Crosley transmitter, as well as the lightning ball from atop the 831-foot WLW



On display was the original ball from atop the 831-foot broadcasting tower of radio station WLW during the 1934-1938 years. GE analyzed the holes in the ball caused by lightning strikes, and estimated that 200,000 amps traveled through it on their way to the ground!

tower. These items and others were borrowed from Gray's Museum in downtown Cincinnati.

A large number of attendees chose to tour Gray's History of Wireless Museum hosted by Conrad Doucette and Ed Garner. All were pleasantly surprised at one of the best kept secrets in Cincinnati. Jack Gray started collecting wireless artifacts in 1930, resulting in one of the most complete collections in existence. The collection is properly labeled and displayed in glass showcases at the Crosley Telecommunications Center. If you find yourself passing through southwestern Ohio make a point of visiting this exhibit.

Friday evening's seminar on Crosley and WLW presented by Charles J. "Charlie" Stinger proved to be a standing-room-only event. Charlie, a retired engineer from WLW and the Crosley-built Bethany Relay Voice of America, provided everyone with a humorous yet informative slice of history.

Rare slides from Gray's Museum gave the audience an insight into Powell Crosley Jr.'s versatility — a characteristic generally unknown. Included were slides of Crosley autos, Shelvador refrigerators with built-in radios, Exovac hair restorers, lcyballs, and even baby walkers, all manufactured by Crosley. Most of the questions that followed were centered on the 500,000 watt transmitter and its impact on surrounding communities. What R.F.I.!

The theme for RadioRama '98 has not yet been decided, but once again, it should be an event worth attending.

*(Bob Sands, 40 Dow Ct., Fairfield, OH 45014)*

*The Antique Radio Club of Ohio meets monthly and sponsors RadioRama and an August show annually. For membership information contact: Steve Geary, 1310 Campbell Rd., Sidney, OH 45365-2509. Dues are \$10. The club publishes the "ARCO Code" quarterly.*

*The Cincinnati Antique Radio Society is a new club — a spinoff from the SPARK Club in Cincinnati. The club has monthly meetings. For more information, contact Ted Lewis, 6 Indian Dr., Sardinia, OH 45171.*

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## IHRS/AWA Spring Fling Radio Festival Indianapolis, Indiana — May 1-3, 1997

CONTRIBUTED BY LARRY BABCOCK

I have attended the Indiana Historical Radio Society radio meet yearly for the past decade, and once again found it to be well worth the 600-mile drive from Buffalo, New York. Indianapolis is an excellent new location for the meet as the motel rooms are moderately priced and quite nice. However, have you ever noticed how many antique radio meets are now held in locations adjacent to a noisy thruway?

This 3-day event has a different agenda from

most other clubs. While many groups refrain from early sales, this club encourages all to arrive a day early to set up and buy or sell whenever possible. When I arrived at 4 P.M., Thursday, May 1, the flea market was already operating at one-half its peak size, permitting me to purchase my only major acquisition — a Model 200 Federal panel set.

As some of you may know, I am a Federal collector. While at the early Thursday showing, I



Items for sale in the flea market by Alan Jespersen included many classic Zenith radios.

discovered a Federal panel set, housed in a rather crude cabinet, exhibiting odd sized, drilled holes in its side panels. Confidently, I explained to the seller that usually these panel sets were made to be placed into an old hand-crank phonograph, alongside a turntable. Therefore, they required no cabinet to house them, and none was provided by the manufacturer. I thought this particular cabinet must have been built by some collector to protect and display his set better.

Imagine my surprise when I found a Federal tag on the bottom of the cabinet! Then I noticed the side holes were perfectly aligned for access to controls and terminals on the chassis. This was indeed a Federal panel radio in its original Federal cabinet and a rare find. Certainly, I had learned something new about panel sets! Though I thought \$300 was a bit expensive for this piece, I knew if I didn't purchase it immediately, it would quickly disappear. So, I grabbed it!

I am definitely not a dealer, and set up to sell only twice a year. However, in Indianapolis, the sellers' spaces could be acquired for only \$5 (single space) or \$10 (double space). I could not resist this bargain, and bought two. I cannot afford to set up and sell at meets where higher prices are charged for selling space. Of course, some clubs must charge higher prices to ration space and try to give an equal chance to all dealers who wish to sell. I shop at these events but do not sell.

I did quite well, selling off my expendable treasures in exchange for the Federal piece. I do enjoy exchanging some less desirable pieces for one major acquisition, which will take up less space in my collection.

Of the nearly 90 families registered for this event, surely most of them were dealers who displayed their wares in the large, extremely packed flea market. I saw numerous Rider manuals at \$15 each, but a Volume XX was priced at \$90 and a Volume XXI at \$100. Early 1920s *Radio News* issues were priced from \$12 to \$15, and 1930s issues at \$5. My AC/DC, Bakelite, table radios sold well for \$10 and \$15, but those priced from \$25 did not sell.

Overall, it seems that prices on novelty radios have dropped somewhat. For example, a nude doll transistor novelty radio with a see-through



Entered in the contest was this elegant 1926 Slagle Model XX.

lace dress (knobs for bustline) in playing condition brought only \$50.

Considerable merchandise changed hands on Friday until a rainstorm slowed matters down. A fancy tent in the flea market area helped, but, unfortunately, no sellers presented their merchandise inside the tent.

Various contestants displayed their interesting and rare entries in the major equipment contest, which featured sets manufactured in Indiana. There were two rare 5-tube sets on display, both manufactured by the Slagle Radio Company in Ft. Wayne during the middle 1920s. Both were in beautiful condition and included extensive paper work describing the history of the company and its founder. Slagle made high quality radios, which are extremely rare today. A 1924 Model IV TRF receiver with 3 knobs and a 1926 Model XX with single knob tuning were also entered in the contest.

Thanks to this convenient location, one could easily walk to the Bob Evans Restaurant or Chi Chi's for meals. The banquet was held at Laughner's Cafeteria, providing easily accessible meals for the large crowds. People chose their food cafeteria-style, and then proceeded to a private dining room.

The main speaker was Kevin Silva, who told about his grandfather's experiences working as an engineer with Edwin Armstrong, and as chief design engineer at Atwater Kent. Two seminars were also held. One featured Peter Yanczer, who demonstrated early mechanical TV scanning concepts.

There is now a radio museum in Ligonier, Indiana, which I visited on my way home. It is open only on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays between 10 A.M. and 3 P.M. Located midway between Ft. Wayne and Elkhart, Indiana, it houses a very interesting display of early radios.

Have I convinced you to attend this meet next year? I'll be there and I hope you will be too.

(Larry Babcock, 8095 Centre Ln., East Amherst, NY 14051)

For information on the Indiana Historical Radio Society, write to: IHRS, 245 N. Oakland Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46201. Dues are \$20, and the "IHRS Bulletin" is published quarterly. The club holds quarterly swap meets in various parts of the state.



## Ham Price Guide By Eugene Rippen

REVIEWED BY RAY BINTLIFF, W1RY

There seems to be a growing interest in Amateur Radio equipment as witnessed by the recent publication of several collector's books dealing with that segment of the hobby. The *Ham Price Guide* by Eugene Rippen continues this trend. Collectors of radios built for home entertainment have a number of price guides available to them, including Marty and Sue Bunis' popular series. The ham community has not been as fortunate. Hence, Rippen's book is a welcome addition to the list of ham-related publications.

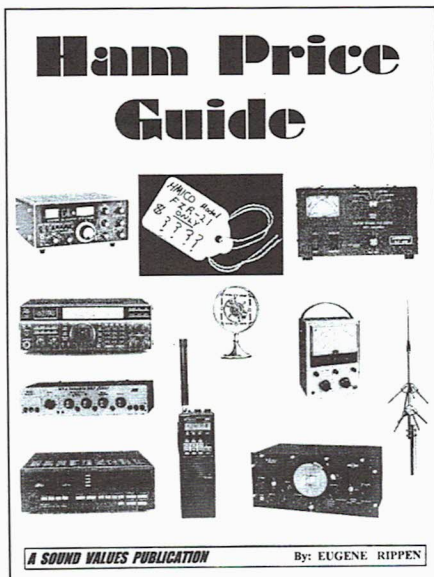
### GROUND RULES

Preparing a price guide is a tricky feat at best, but Rippen lays down some definitive ground rules in his introduction and states that "The primary purpose of this book is that of a PRICE GUIDE. And it is just that, a guide to aid in determining prices at which goods may be sold." He points out that for most ham equipment the volume of sales of a particular model is not sufficient to determine a fair market value in the sense that "blue book" values can be established. Ham equipment is not sold in volume like automobiles. However, for a number of models with sufficient sales volume he does show what he calls "sound value estimates."

He also points out some of the factors that affect the value of an item and make it difficult to establish a precise value for a given model. These factors include appearance, operating condition, availability of a manual and original box, as well as mood and attitude of the buyer and seller.

### WHAT'S IN — WHAT'S NOT

First of all, it is important to understand what is not in the book. Unlike most price guides, there are no illustrations because of space limitations. The author does provide a list of pictorial guide books that can be used to supplement this price guide.



In addition to the obvious ham gear, the listings include test equipment, antennas, and other ham-related items. In terms of age, the listings range from a 1922 Paragon transmitter to contemporary items from such makers as Alinco, Astron, ICOM, Kenwood, MFJ, TEN-TEC and Yaesu.

Unlike most price guides, Rippen's book makes no attempt to integrate raw sales data to make an educated guess as to value. Some radio price guides show a single estimated value for a radio while others list a range of values. Rippen has taken a different approach by listing the raw data for each model and allowing

the reader to determine value based upon the information provided in each listing. Some examples of this approach are discussed below.

### CONTENT

The introduction defines the purpose of the book and how to use it. In addition to its useful introduction, this price guide consists of two sections. The first part is a columnar tabulation that is arranged in alphabetical order by the maker's name and lists the maker, a model name/number, a brief description, a price, the year of price, and a single-letter code to indicate if the line item listing represents an actual sale, an advertisement for sale or an offer to purchase (S, A or O).

Some examples of these listings may help in understanding his approach. There are eight priced entries for the Echophone Model EC1. Four entries are dated 1993, three of which are actual sales for \$31, \$55 and \$60. Their respective conditions are listed as G, VG and G (Goodness is in the eye of the beholder). The other entry dated 1993 is an advertisement with a price of \$65 but without a stated condition. For 1995, one entry is a sale for \$10 with the notation

"works, no BFO." The remaining three entries are advertisements from 1995 with prices and condition listed as \$40, F, \$65 with condition unspecified and \$95, listed as G.

In short, what we have is a do-it-yourself price guide that provides a listing of transactions from which the reader can draw conclusions as to value.

This part of the book is arranged in two columns per page and contains 260 listings per page.

### A CROSS-REFERENCE

The second tabulation is arranged in alphanumeric order by model name/number and shows the maker's name for each listed model. This tabulation is useful in finding the maker's name if only the model is known. This cross-reference is arranged in a three-to-the-page columnar format with 366 listings per page.

### SOME DETAILS

Rippen uses abbreviations in the "Model" and "Description" columns to conserve space. He calls them "cryptics." However, many of these abbreviations are easily understood, and all are defined

to assist the reader.

The price dates shown in the listings span the period from 1993 to 1995. And most listings appear to fall into the "A" or advertised category. A few listings do not include a price.

All of the well known manufacturers appear in the price guide along with some of the lesser known ones. As you might expect, Heathkit has more listings than any other company — a confirmation of its success as a supplier of ham equipment.

The collection, organization and editing tasks associated with the production of this price guide seem formidable. The book contains more than 7,000 line items. But fortunately, someone has finally done it.

This 36-page book is softbound in the usual 8½ x 11" format and is available from the publisher, Sound Values, P.O. Box 9, Auburn, CA 95604, A.R.C., and A.R.C. advertisers. Priced at \$9.95, the *Ham Price Guide* deserves a place in your library. Be sure to check with the suppliers for ordering and shipping information.

(Ray Bintliff, 2 Powder Horn Lane, Acton, MA 01720)

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## Stellwag's Radio Quiz — Answers

CONTRIBUTED BY GUS STELLWAG

*Our hats are off to Tony Verdi, the one brave soul to respond to Gus Stallwag's radio quiz in the February 1997 issue of A.R.C. It seems that Gus' quiz is a "killer," and most who tried it gave up fairly quickly. Gus says that his intention was to challenge personal recollections and not to ask questions that could be looked up in reference books. Apparently, he succeeded. But, Tony had almost three-fourths of the answers right — an excellent score. (Editor)*

1. Young Widder Brown
2. The Mysterious Traveler
3. William
4. The Road of Life
5. Costume Designer (Myrt & Marge)
6. The Strange Romance of Eveleyn Winters
7. Uncle Don
8. Vic & Sade
9. She was talking on the telephone
10. Weird recipes
11. Jimmy Fidler
12. "I don't like killers!"
13. Hildegarde
14. Thunder
15. The "Polaris"
16. \$10
17. Rochester Van Jones
18. Pick Malone, Pat Padgett — Model Pipe Tobacco
19. Arlene Francis
20. Mohawk Rugs
21. Hulla Ballou and Little Boy Ballou
22. His girlfriend, Ellen North
23. Harry McNaughton
24. Major Steele
25. Ichabod Mudd
26. A Chinese gong
27. A newsboy calling out headlines



28. A character created by Bob & Ray for the spoof of "Suspense" called "Anxiety"
29. Listerine
30. Grandpappy Spears
31. The Yodeling Cow-Girl
32. Reynolds Aluminum
33. Roxor
34. Dick Tracy's arm
35. Ray Block
36. Cal Tinney
37. A set of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*
38. "Sorry Wrong Number" starring Agnes Moorehead
39. "Invoco Legum Magicarium" ("I invoke the Law of Magic")
40. When a Girl Marries

(Gus Stellwag, 117 Edgewood Dr., Orangeburg, NY 10962)



# RADIO MISCELLANEA

"Radio Miscellaneous" includes items of general interest selected from A.R.C.'s incoming correspondence. "In The Marketplace" items are based on information submitted by the businesses themselves. "From The Internet" items are obtained from internet newsgroups and other internet resources. Submitted items should be verified for accuracy; items may be edited by A.R.C. for publication, and publication is not guaranteed. See the masthead for more details.

## TV Theme at AWA Conference

Dear Editor:

I finally had the opportunity to attend the AWA Conference for the first time in ten years. The theme this year was television, and I was impressed by both the quantity and depth of information available. Where else could a television collector find the opportunity to get together with like-minded souls from around the world to compare notes and convince each other that accumulating big, heavy, obsolete and frequently nonworking TV sets is normal behavior?

The spirit of the conference was pleasant and collegial, with assistance on a variety of issues shared by attendees.

I first learned of AWA and our local New Jersey club through A.R.C. Thanks for keeping us all in touch!

David Sica, Rahway, NJ

*Look for a full report on the AWA Conference, as well as Radiofest '97 in the November issue of A.R.C. (Editor)*

## Delaware Valley Club Auction

Dear Editor:

I've been a subscriber for over a year now and have met interesting people and learned much that has helped me enjoy the hobby more. On a business trip, I was lucky to be able to attend the DVARC auction in Souderton, Pa. Lots of bargains and neat people too. One of the items I picked up for a buck was a sorry looking Crosley battery cathedral that no one else would bid on. Rough fixer-uppers are my style!

When I got back to work, the radios I had bought were still in my truck, and a coworker said, "What junk! What good is it?" Well, I scraped the rust and other debris out of it and undid the corroded IF trimmers. The "junk" still looks like junk, but it is playing on my workbench. There's always hope.

Bob Rosengarten, Clarksville, OH

P.S. The Cincinnati RadioRama was excellent — you may want to pass this on to the readers.

## A.R.C. is "The Hot Spot" on the Web

Here is an interesting exchange from the Internet:

**From Ralph Boyer, July 28:** "Are there any antique radio magazines? Other than the newsletters produced by the various clubs, I've never seen any publications. I was curious if any existed, what the name(s) are, and how to go about getting a sample copy."

**From Jim Cross, July 29:** "Antique Radio Classified. Antique Wireless Association."

**From Ralph Boyer, July 29:** "Thanks to everyone who responded to my question. I've received a number of responses and the locations of a lot of web sites to visit. A.R.C. seems to be the hot spot. I'll start there."

*An excellent plan, we can't help remarking. And Ralph requested and did receive his sample copy. (Editor)*

## On AC Line Capacitors

Dear Editor:

Referring to Frederick Suffield's letter in the June 1997 *Radio Miscellanea* concerning the capacitor that popped on the hot side of his AC line, these capacitors are getting hard to find these days. The old tubular caps are gone for the most part; the face of electronics has changed now with surface mount and dip soldering.

Robert J. MacCulloch, Bellflower, CA

*Capacitors designed specifically for AC line use are available from Newark Electronics, 4801 N. Ravenswood, Chicago, IL 60640. (773) 784-5100. Their latest catalog lists "AC line rated ceramic disc capacitors" manufactured by Sprague. The 125L series of capacitors carries a continuous voltage rating of 300 VAC, 2000 VDC. The largest capacitance value is 0.05 mF. With their high transient voltage ratings, these capacitors seem the best answer to replacements for those old line bypass capacitors. (Editor)*

## Voice of Music Tape Recorders

Dear Editor:

I certainly enjoyed Phil Van Praag's article on vintage audio recorders in the July issue of A.R.C. I can identify personally with his aspirations to spur some interest in these machines that brought such magic to me in my youth. Too many go to the landfill every day.

Having also started with a Voice of Music tape recorder, and having since done substantial research on them, I would like to date more precisely the Model 714, shown on page 5. It was introduced in the spring of 1957, replacing the earlier Model 711, and was discontinued in the fall of 1959 after the Model 720, which could play both 2-track and the new 4-track stereo tapes, debuted.

Gary Stork, Northville, MI

*Readers may be interested to know that Gary Stork is publisher of "The Voice of Music —the Collector's Voice Newsletter for collectors, enthusiasts and friends of V-M Corporation and its products." Gary's address is 37530 E. Meadowhill, Northville, MI 48167. (Editor)*

## In The Marketplace

If your interests include sound reproduction the *Beginner's Guide to Tube Audio Design* by Bruce Rozenblit may be of interest. As the title implies, this book describes basic electronics theory, vacuum tube fundamentals and the use of vacuum tubes in audio equipment. The text is supported by schematic diagrams. Complete schematics for several classic audio designs are included.

This book, priced at \$24.95, is soft-bound in the usual 8-1/2" x 12" format and contains 132 pages. Published by Audio Amateur Press, Peterborough, NH, it is available from Old Colony Sound Lab, P.O. Box 243, Peterborough, NH 03458-0243 and A.R.C. advertisers.

# CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING POLICY

**ONE FREE 20-WORD AD** for subscribers in each issue; additional words are 27¢ each. See details below. Classified ads sent by mail, fax or by any other method must be received (not just postmarked!) by **Noon Eastern Time** on the classified ad deadline date to guarantee inclusion in the current issue. Late ads are held for the following issue. Please enclose correct payment with all ads. Stamps or cash are OK for small amounts. (Canadian and other foreign advertisers, please see "Payment" on page 2 for methods.) "Free words" cannot be accumulated from month to month; free words must be requested when ad is submitted.

**Faxed & e-mailed ads:** Please see additional information on the inside front cover.

**When including ads with other A.R.C. correspondence, write the ads on a separate piece of paper.** Include SUB# with ads. Ads may be sent in advance; but, write each ad on a separate piece of paper and indicate the month (or successive two months) you want the ad to run.

**To minimize our typing errors: Please write legibly.** Use both capital and small letters. Do not use a dash between words. Carefully write the following numbers and letters (especially in model numbers) since some can look alike; for example 1, I and l (the number one, the capital i and the small l.) Also: 0, O, o, Q and D; r and n; 6, b and G; V, U, u, v and Y; A and R; 5, S and s; 2, Z and z. We try to correct spelling errors, so when using an uncommon word or manufacturer which we might mistake as a more common word or manufacturer, note it so that we do not "correct" it. Editor's annotations are in [brackets].

**Advertising is accepted only for early items related to radio, communication, etc. All items must be described fairly; reproductions, reprints and not-original items must be so identified. Advertisers must agree to respond promptly to inquiries and orders, to resolve problems promptly if the buyer is not satisfied, and to comply with a buyer's refund request on unaltered returned items.**

The publisher reserves the right to edit ads without notification to the advertiser and to reject ads for any reason. Names other than the advertiser will be edited out of ads. Ads with non-radio-related items will be returned or edited unless the non-radio-related items are for trade of radio-related items, or they are incidental to and appear at the end of an otherwise acceptable ad. The publisher is not responsible for errors due to illegibly written ads or for any other reason.

**Clubs:** Since club activities receive free coverage on the *Coming Radio Events* pages, the free 20 words may not be used for club activity ads. See inside front cover for additional information.

## CLASSIFIED AD DETAILS

**Deadline: NOON ET- 10th of the month!**

Classified ads must have a standard heading such as **WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR TRADE, FOR SALE/TRADE, SERVICES, MESSAGE, HELP, AUCTION, MEET, etc.** This heading is the only bold or all-capitalized words allowed in the ad. Capitalize only manufacturer names, model names, etc. This standard ad format makes scanning the ads easier.

Before writing your ad, please look over the ads in a recent issue of A.R.C., and try to write your ad in the same style. Full name (or company name) and address is required in all classified ads; we will add it if you forget.

To encourage varied content of the ads, the same classified ad may be run only once per issue and for only two consecutive months. (To run an ad longer, use a boxed classified or display ad.)

### Classified Ad Rates per Month

Subscribers:

First 20 words: **FREE\***

27¢ per word for extra words over 20 **plus**

10¢ per word for a shaded ad (count all words including free words).

\* Subscribers may take 20 free words on only **one** ad each month.

Non-Subscribers:

45¢ per word **plus**

10¢ per word for shaded ad.

Please do not forget to send in the extra 27¢ per word when your classified ad runs over the free 20 words; your payment will be appreciated, and it will help to keep A.R.C. healthy.

## BOXED CLASSIFIED AD DETAILS

**Deadline: 1st of the month!**

Boxed classified ads can run unchanged for three months or more. No words are free. Ads may be shaded and may include bold and all-capitalized words freely. The ad need not begin with "For Sale," etc. Minimum run is 3 months, prepaid. Discount: 10% for 6 months; 20% for 12 months.

### Boxed Classified Ad Rates per Month

Nonshaded ads:

38¢ per word for all words,\* none free, **plus**

10¢ per word for each bold word **plus**

10¢ per word for each all-caps word.

Shaded Ads (All words are bold at no charge):

48¢ per word for all words\* **plus**

10¢ per word for each all-caps word.

Non-Subscribers:

Add 20¢ per word to above costs.

\*Three words can be bold-all-caps at no extra charge.

## PHOTO & DRAWING DETAILS

**Deadline: 1st of the month**

**for all ads with drawings or photos!**

Drawings and photos are encouraged as the response to your ad is much larger and the reader knows better what you want or are selling. Send in your drawing or photograph, and A.R.C. will reduce it or enlarge it as needed.

### Photo and Drawing Rates per Month

\$22.00 per month for each photo or drawing

(If ad is canceled, this amount cannot always be refunded.)

## CHANGES & CANCELLATIONS

Please check your ads carefully before sending them in. Once ads are received, it is not always possible to refund the amount sent, pull the ad or make changes.

## IMPORTANT — COUNTING WORDS — IMPORTANT

The **standard headings:** WANTED, FOR SALE, etc., count as **one word** each time used in an ad. **Name, address and (one) telephone number,** count as **6 words,** regardless of length. Ham call letters and business name can be included in the 6 words and do not count extra. Full name (or company name) and address is required in all classified ads. Each additional word, abbreviation, model number or number group, extra telephone numbers, fax, e-mail, etc. count as one word each. Hyphenated words count as two words.



PERIODICALS

A.R.C., P.O. Box 2, CARLISLE, MA 01741  
RETURN POSTAGE GUARANTEED

**CLASSIFIED AD  
DEADLINE OCT. 10th  
Noon Eastern Time**