

Edna Clemons

SAVE

Indiana Historical Radio Society
BULLETIN

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Number 4

*Make It A
Radio Christmas*



MICKEY MOUSE MEMORIES



Preservation For Posterity

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IHRS is a NON-PROFIT organization which was founded in 1971. Annual membership dues are \$8.00 which includes first class quarterly IHRS Bulletin. RADIOADS are free to all members.

****PLEASE****

Send a stamped, self-addressed envelope
when requesting information.

*****NOTICE*****

1987 IHRS dues are due in January. Send your \$8.00 check to Marilyn B. Johnston, Treasurer, Route 1, Box 218-A, Windfall, IN 46076. Membership includes four issues of the IHRS BULLETIN by First Class Mail. "For Sale" and "Wanted" RADIOADS are free. Please verify your mailing address.

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

This is my first column since our fall meet at Valparaiso, where I was elected to my second term as president.

In retrospect, I feel we have had four very successful meets this year. Our many thanks to Frank and Diane Heathcote, Don and Marilyn Johnston, and Art and Jorja Hershman for hosting these meets. We sincerely appreciate your efforts.

Our next meet will be in February. An announcement with details is in this BULLETIN. Mark your calendar!

The IND*EX project between IHRS and the museum committee in Indianapolis is moving forward. By now six or eight members have agreed to provide (on loan) artifacts for display.

This exposure will be very good for the IHRS and our hobby in general. The willingness of our membership to loan equipment will make this an outstanding exhibit. In the Spring BULLETIN I will have a projected opening date. At present, the exhibits are now scheduled to open in June/July, 1987.

Following the Canandaigua meet, my wife and I took a trip through the mountains in upper New York. The foliage was beautiful, but it rained almost every day! However, since it did not rain out the flea market at Canandaigua, I guess it was a good trade-off!

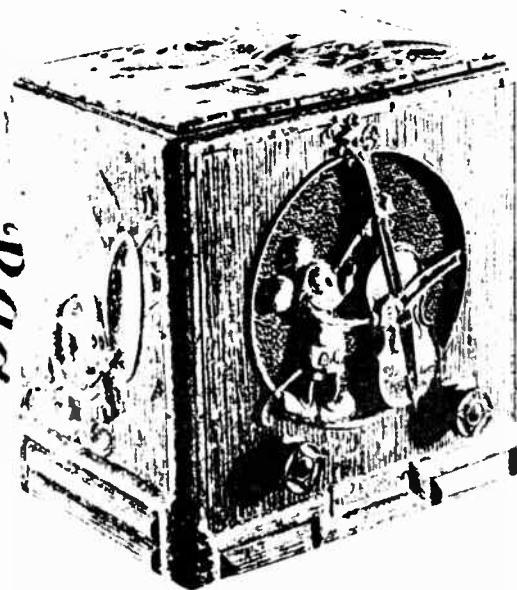
My best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I hope to see many of you in February.

Paul Gregg, President

A WALT DISNEY RADIO CHRISTMAS

By Edna Clemans

At Christmas time we all wish we could be children once again to relive the magic and excitement of the season. As radio collectors, we could wish for childhood again and Christmas, if for no other reason than to receive a gift of a spanking new Walt Disney radio. I have pictured here some of the various radios which feature a Walt Disney creation. Disney character radios are being produced even today, but let's start at the beginning. For Christmas, 1933, if we were good boys and girls, we might receive a four-tube baby-model Mickey Mouse Radio. This little table model radio showed Mickey playing musical instruments on all four sides. The cabinet was made of pressed wood syroco. Emerson Radio manufactured the Mickey Mouse Radio and gave away the pictured pinback button with the mouse's picture. The button dates from 1934.



One of the programs we could tune our Emerson to would be "Mickey Mouse Theater of the Air." NBC first aired the show in 1937, with Walt Disney himself as the voice of Mickey, Thelma Boardman as Minnie Mouse, Clarence Nash as Donald Duck, Stuart Buchanan as Goofy, and Florence Gill as Clarabelle Cow and Clara Cluck. Musical interludes were provided by the Felix Mills Orchestra and Donald Duck's Swing Band and the Minnie Mouse

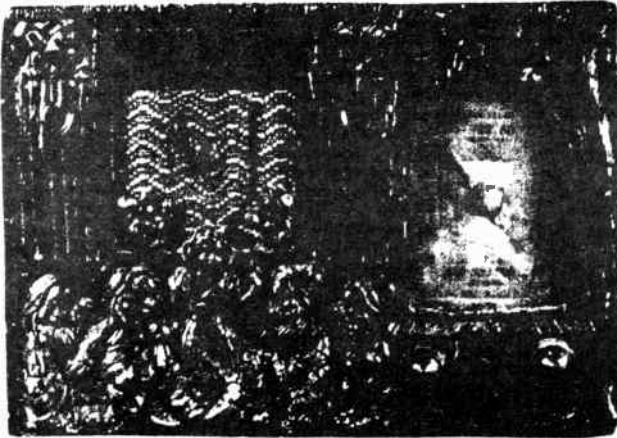
Woodland Choir. Below we show the cover of Radio Mirror Magazine for April 19, 1938.

Exciting New Pages of PICTURES! see Photo-Mirror, Page 15



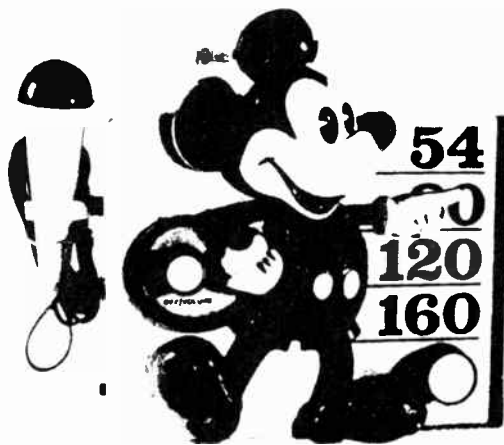
Emerson Radio and Phonograph Corporation of New York, calling itself "makers of the world's biggest selling little radios," put out another version of a Mickey Mouse Radio. Unfortunately, I could not obtain an illustration of this set. It is described as a cream and green painted four-tube radio with a color-litho-metal figure of Mickey on the speaker. Four smaller Mickeys appeared in the four corners. In addition to the cream and green color scheme, the radio was available in black and silver.

The next Disney radio I do have illustrated - the Snow White and Seven Dwarfs Radio, also by Emerson and also in syroco wood. The selling price in 1938 was \$14.95, really a lot of money for a children's "toy" at the time.



Still in the Thirties, Emerson produced the Three Little Pigs Radio and a wind-up Mickey Mouse portable phonograph. The old magic, or something very much akin to it, would return should we uncover one of these Emerson treasures at a garage sale next summer. Talk about Christmas-in-July!

More near our time are the Mickey Mouse Radios produced by Concept 2000, Hong Kong. I show one here. This is a battery set of the 1970's and 80's. It has an attached microphone so that the user can sing-a-long.



Finally for the fiftieth anniversary of Disney Studios, a number of Disney character radios were produced. These date from 1973 and include Mickey Mouse, Minnie Mouse, Donald Duck, and Pinocchio Radios. Original price in 1973 was \$10.75.

The illustrations and information with the article came from the book **Cartoon Collectibles** (1983) by Robert Heide and John Gilman. Oh to be young again!

REPORT FROM CANANDAIGUA

By Ross Smith

The annual AWA Conference held in Canandaigua, New York, the last week in September was the twenty-fifth anniversary conference for the AWA and, in my opinion, the best yet. Meeting and talking with the guest of honor, Dr. John Bardeen, was a great pleasure. He was a real "down-to-earth" man for having won two Nobel Prizes.

I wish we could have had a count of IHRS members who were present, but it was not possible. Let us just say that there were many of us in attendance among the over 800 total registration.

In the contests, Ed Taylor and I both brought back two ribbons each, out of a total number of entries in all categories of seventy-seven. This included some displays from Europe.

Ed won first place in the telegraph group with his operating 1840 sounder-register made by Knox-Shain. Before the telegraph operators learned to read code, the registers were used to receive the message on tape. Ed's second ribbon was for third place in the crystal set division, with his English Radiola with one-tube amplifier and phones. The competition in the crystal set group was fantastic.

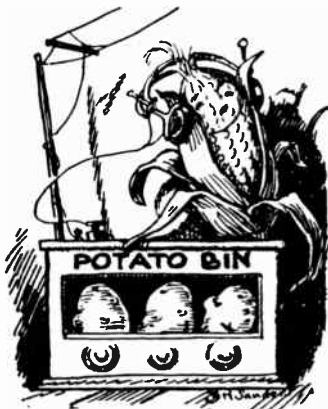
My entry in the transistor group took first place. It consisted of a Regency TR-1 first production set, an audio amplifier built in 1952 with Bell Lab prototype N-P-N transistors, Dr. Bardeen's picture, a copy of the transistor patent, and several other documents on the subject. Dr. Bardeen used all of our transistor displays for props during his Saturday evening address. I received a second place in the telegraph category with a Western Electric (circa 1860) telegraph switchboard with pin switching, connected to operating units for a west line, office, and an east line. A glass crow'sfoot primary battery was also included for the effect, filled with blue water.

I think we need to encourage more IHRS members to take part in all of our contests. Ed and I were the only members with entries this year, as far as I know. I do know that IHRS member Don Johnston has won ribbons at AWA and ARCA contests.

1987 RADIO ALMANAC

- January 3 Opening of Congress first televised, 1947.
7 Trans-Atlantic telephone service began, 1927.
9 First public demonstration of color TV, 1941.
20 President Ford pardoned Tokyo Rose, 1977.
28 First commercial telephone exchange in U.S. opened, 1878.
- February 9 U.S. Weather Bureau established, 1870.
16 First daily TV news in U.S. broadcast on NBC, 1948.
- March 10 Alexander Graham Bell said, "Mr. Watson, come here. I want you." 1876.
Jack Benny voted "greatest radio personality during last 25 years," 1950.
29 Jack Benny's radio debut, 1932.
- April 1 "Edge of Night" debuted, CBS-TV, 1956.
6 RCA reported successful transmission of color TV by coaxial cable, 1950.
15 Luxury liner Titanic struck an iceberg and sank, 1912.
23 First public showing of motion pictures in New York, 1896.
- May 9 "Charlie McCarthy Show" first broadcast, 1937.
27 First use of Morse telegraph, 1844.
- June 19 Federal Communications Commission (FCC) established, 1934.
- July 1 First sponsored TV commercial appeared, 1941.
10 Telstar launched, 1962.
13 Atlantic cable laid, 1866.
21 First scheduled TV program aired, 1931.
28 First singing telegram delivered, 1933.
- August 20 First regular licensed radio broadcast began, 1920.
26 First telecast of major league baseball game, 1939.
- September 18 Columbia Phonograph Broadcasting System (later CBS) made its debut with a network of 16 radio stations, 1927.
- October 5 World Series of baseball broadcast for first time on radio, 1921.
First presidential telecast from White House, 1947.
11 First political telecast in the United States took place as the Democratic National Committee sponsored a program from a CBS television studio in NYC, 1932.

- 17 Radio Corporation of America created, 1919.
- 18 First "Perry Mason" radio show, 1943.
- 21 Edison invented incandescent lamp, 1879.
- 24 First trans-continental telegram sent, 1861.
- 30 Mercury Theatre on CBS, starring Orson Welles, broadcast "The War of the Worlds," 1938.
- November 5 Birthday of Co-Editor, IHRS Bulletin, no date.
- 11 Kate Smith first sang "God Bless America" (Irving Berlin) on network radio, 1939.
- 13 NBC formed the first full-sized symphony orchestra exclusively for radio broadcast, 1937.
- 14 BBC began its domestic radio service, 1922.
- 15 NBC began as a radio network with 24 stations, 1926.
- 21 Edison announced invention of phonograph, 1877.
- 22 SOS distress signal adopted at the International Radio Telegraphic Convention in Britain, 1906.
- 23 First jukebox installed, San Francisco, 1889.
- 25 WTAW of College Station, Texas, broadcast the first play-by-play description of a football game, Texas vs Texas A&M, 1920.
- December 7 CBS-TV presented first surgical operation in color coast-to-coast, 1951.
- 12 Marconi sent first transatlantic wireless radio signal, 1901.
- 27 Radio City Music Mall opened in NYC, 1932.



A three-tuber set with ear phones

Radio Jingles

OHM'S LAW DEBATED

*“Will you come and take me home?”
Said the Ampere to the Ω :
“No! For you I’ve no assistance;
If you’ll get a little volt
To come and ‘take a holt’
Then perhaps you’ll get by my—~~~~~
M. S. Andelin.*

RESOURCEFUL!

*Said a battery charger, named Peter
“My girl’s coming today; I should treat her,
But she comes on a boat
And a loan I can’t float—
So I guess I will let a*



Ashley N. Chandler

ANSWERS TO SEPTEMBER RADIO JINGLES

coil — forces — polygon — MORSE

battery mates — bracket — circuit — grounds

Answers to this issue’s RADIO JINGLES will be in the next IHRS Bulletin.
The Jingles are reprinted from RADIO NEWS, October, 1927.

"AN OWL AND A PUSSY CAT—"

● "An owl and a pussy cat went to sea—"

If you want to go to sea—or sleep—and listen to your favorite program while falling, why the radio owl pictured below will do the trick for you easily. Merely plug the owl in the light line and the radio in the owl; then set the owl for any time within two hours after setting, and the wise one quietly does its work.

Suppose Radio Jr. wants to play for a while before going to bed, and daddy wants to play at the same time; merely set the owl, and in a predetermined time the light in the child's room goes out—simple, eh?

Have you a little neon sign over your store? If you have, and want to shut it off, say an hour after you close up, just connect the



wise old owl, and he will shut it off for you.

This owl is sturdily constructed, has no parts to wear out, nothing to wind—but a lot to do.

It is a product of the Universal Microphone Co.

RADIO-CRAFT for FEBRUARY, 1933

The Radio Owl pictured above is approximately five to six inches tall and works by a pneumatic device.

THANKS, LIONEL

Lionel Haid has donated a box of small sign holders and numbers to enhance the Auburn museum display.

With dental care, radio switches off

DEAR ABBY: When I read the letter from the reader signed "Hearing Things in York, S.C.," I recalled that some years ago there was an article in the medicine section of Time magazine on the subject of medical detective work.

One of the examples cited involved a man who went to a psychiatrist complaining that he was always hearing radio broadcasts. Thinking to humor him, the psychiatrist asked what he was hearing right then. The man replied he was hearing Rudy Vallee broadcasting from the Steel Pier in Atlantic City.

The psychiatrist turned on his office radio and, sure enough, he heard Rudy Vallee! He became so intrigued that he conducted an extensive project with his patient.

After much questioning he discovered that the man worked in a glass bottle factory and had gotten some silica crystals in dental cavities. The combination of the silica, saliva and some bridgework in his mouth had literally transformed



Abigail Van Buren

him into a walking crystal radio receiver!

The psychiatrist referred the patient to a dentist who gave his teeth a thorough cleaning, filled the cavities and redid the bridgework. As a result, the patient "went off the air." was able to concentrate and lived happily ever after. Hope this helps your reader. — R.T. HOLLAND, LOS ANGELES

DEAR MR. HOLLAND: Thank you for a fascinating letter.

Now, does anyone doubt that truth is stranger than fiction?

• • •

THE INDIANAPOLIS NEWS

Monday, September 29, 1986

TRAVELS WITH DEL BARRETT

We were in Huntsville, Alabama, in October for our daughter's birthday. I went to Bill Moore's place to see his collection. Bill lives but four or five doors from daughter's place. What a beautiful collection of cathedrals he has. I had met Bill and Mrs. Moore at our Auburn spring meet.

While listening to an Athens, Alabama, radio station "Swap and Shop" program, I heard someone call in who had old radios for sale. So I jotted down the phone number as this needed investigation. I found the garage sale in Athens without any trouble, and the man gave a sales "pitch" like I've never heard before. The radios were Zenith and GE consoles, and the man assured me that "since the bulbs lighted up, the only thing that could be wrong was that one of the 'fire cracker fuses' had blown out!" Now I'm not sure what a fire cracker fuse might be, but suspect he meant tubular capacitors.

Really had some good barbeque dinners while there in Alabama.

Del

P.S. I didn't buy any of the radios.



*Thermalene Ice Bucket, Deland, Florida, belonging to Joe Willis.
The name "Winners" appears on the dial, but the design is FADA's.*

RADIOADS

WANTED: Pictures of radio stars of 30's, 40's, and 50's, such as Andrews Sisters, Glenn Miller Band, Helen O'Connell, Kitty Kallen, Guy Lombardo, and others for use at ACD Museum. **For sale or swap** four All-American AF XFMRS all good, Remler brass tuning condensers and RF coils. Luetz Pliodyne receiver and a factory-made "No-Name," fair condition but restorable. Del Barrett, 1517 Pacific Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46819. (216) 747-5655.

WANTED: Plugs U-6, U-7, U-8 for ART-13 Transmitter. Information on Army RBZ receiver. Diamond-shaped "National" emblem used on speakers. Paul Gregg, 725 College Way, Carmel, IN 46032.

FOR SALE: AK 42F in Udel Cabinet (Udel Cabinet made in Indianapolis), AK 55 in Keil Cabinet, \$75.00 each. Several other battery sets under \$50.00. You pick up. Cash. Arborphone, Slpitzdorf, FADA, etc. Hardin W. McCauley, 8471 Patterson Street, St. John, IN 46373. (219) 365-5979.

WANTED: Good Amplion, Jr. driver unit or other brand with 3/4" o.d. male connector. George Hauske, 1922 East Indiana Street, Wheaton, IL 60187.

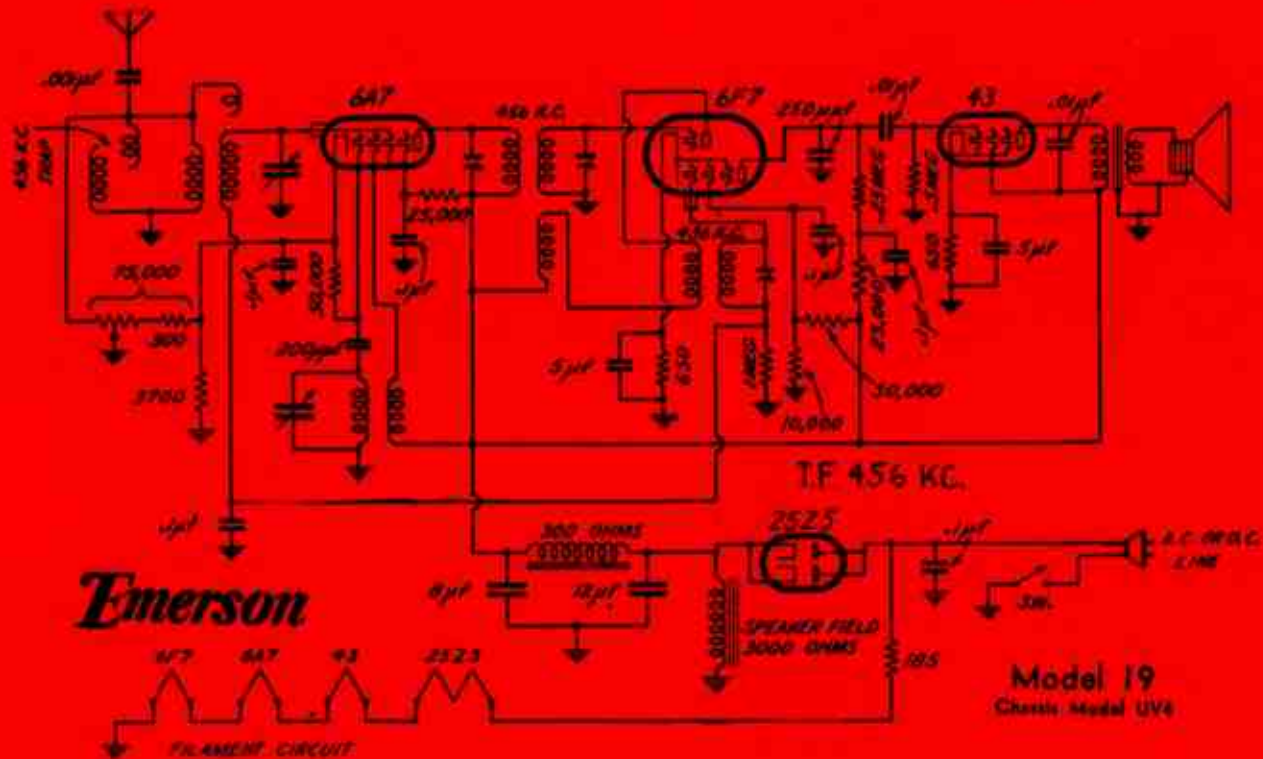
FOR SALE: Hallicrafter Continental two-band table model radio in gunmetal plastic. Working and in good condition, \$25.00 plus \$5.00 shipping. George Hauske, 1922 East Indiana Street, Wheaton, IL 60187.

WANTED: Any McMurdo Silver electric set with or without cabinet. Masterpiece I, II, III, IV, V, VI, 14-15, 15-17. Any literature, McMurdo Silver Times, or Forum Magazines. Also 1935-1939 Zenith consoles. We pick up most areas of U.S. and Canada. Frank and Mary Rasada, 12507 Pinegrove Ln., Cerritos, CA 90701. Days: (714) 951-9591. Eves: (213) 926-6722. Leave message for return call.

MECHANICAL TELEVISION lives again. Build your own working system. Parts & information are available. Send an SASE to Pete Yanczer. 835 Bricken, St. Louis, Mo. 63122.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Congratulations to IHRS member Jim Fred, Route 1, Cutler, IN. Jim has been made a Life Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). The award recognizes outstanding contributions to the radio industry and longevity - he has been a member since 1955.



THE LOG OF THE IHRS

Indiana is on Eastern Standard Time.

Saturday, February 21, 1987: The next meeting of the Indiana Historical Radio Society will be held in Indianapolis at the Sherwood, 6500 South Emerson Avenue. The annual swap meet and flea market opens at 9:00 AM EST with coffee and donuts available. A roast beef Manhattan lunch (with salad and beverage) will be served at noon for \$5.00.

There will be a popular vote contest:

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Class I | Your favorite radio. |
| Class II | Any item that looks like a radio but is NOT a radio, such as a music box, cookie jar, bank, toys, cigarette dispensers, etc. |

For weather or road information, phone

- | | |
|------------|----------------|
| Paul Gregg | (317) 846-3094 |
| Bob Shuck | (317) 849-0210 |
| Ed Taylor | (317) 638-1641 |

MAN-MADE S-T-A-T-I-C

