

BULLETIN

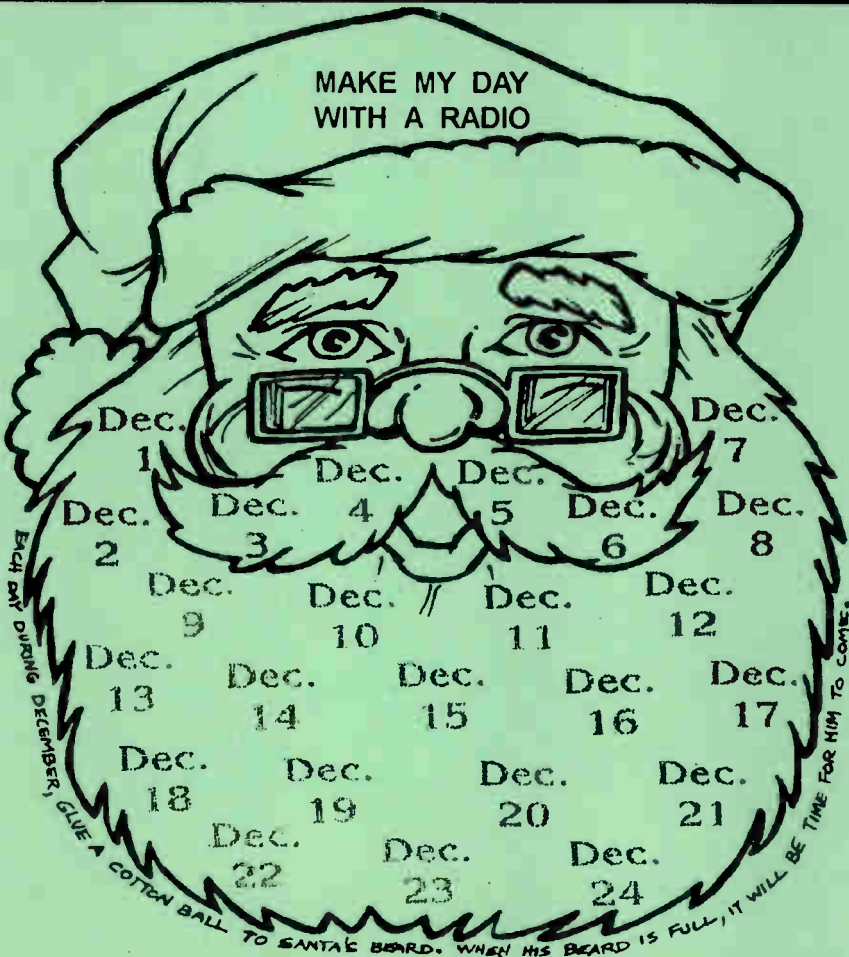
Indiana Historical Radio Society
PRESERVATION FOR POSTERITY

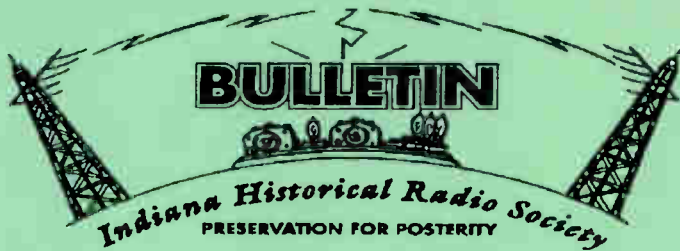
VOL 24

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No. 4

MAKE MY DAY
WITH A RADIO





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BULLETIN DEADLINES, News, Articles & RadioAds -- 2/15, 5/15, 8/15, 11/15

The INDIANA HISTORICAL RADIO SOCIETY is a non-profit organization founded in 1971. Annual membership dues are \$10.00, which includes the quarterly IHRS BULLETIN. RadioAds are free to all members. Please include a S.A.S.E. when requesting information.

LAST WORD FROM THE EX-PRES:

Just a short note to thank everyone who has helped me to help the IHRS as your Vice President and President during the past couple years. It has been time consuming and trying at times but generally speaking it has been fun. Shirley and I look forward to attending our upcoming events. She is recuperating nicely from her last surgical ordeal and, although she couldn't withstand the drive to the Greenfield meet, she's anxious to see her many friends at the Indy meet in February.

Our Greenfield meet was quite the success with over 90 in attendance in spite of the threatening weather. Election of officers takes place during our Fall business meeting. This year all offices were filled by the incumbents except the presidency. I chose not to run for a 2nd term. Our new president is Robert O'Friel, of Indianapolis. I wish him well in his endeavors to help IHRS grow.

I intend to keep this short, for a change, but must report to you that the amendment to our by-laws was passed unanimously and with no changes at the Fall meet. Everyone received a copy of the proposal inserted in the Sept. bulletin. It was suggested from the floor that we study the by-laws with the idea of "up dating" them. I agreed to do this so long as there was no urgent time limit.

I leave you now with three requests that will make your new president and other officers very happy by making their jobs easier.

1) Please pay your 1996 dues, by check, to our treasurer by the end of January 1996. Don't wait to do it at the Feb meet.

2) Please attempt to contribute something to our bulletin. It shouldn't always be one way. You all have a lot of talent and experience that will surely interest the rest of the membership!

3) Please call or write your officers with your thoughts, ideas, gripes, accolades or what have you. They work in a vacuum.....almost never hearing from the membership.

My best regards to all,

Herman Gross

MESSAGE FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT, Bob O'Friel

TO: THE MEMBERS OF THE INDIANA HISTORICAL RADIO SOCIETY

I want to thank everyone for placing their confidence in me, to appoint me to the office of president. I hope and will strive to live up to the expectations which will be a difficult task considering that I am following in the footsteps of Herman Gross. Herman had an eye for detail that is difficult to find in these times and I can vouch for the excellence in performance that he gave to the club.

I will be seeking the help of some of those, who have the knowledge of the club's history to guide me through the times ahead. The IHRS has so many who have already contributed so much such as Ed Taylor, Herman and Mrs. Gross, Walt and Glenna Sanders, Glenn and Ramona Fitch, James Fred, Paul and Maryilyn Gregg, Don and Marilyn Johnston, along with Fred Schultz. Last but not least, Dr. Michael Clark whose devotion to the club's interests is perhaps not known and recognized as it should. He helped to make sure of the good attendance that we had at our last meeting in Greenfield which turned out to be very successful and a lot of fun. Certainly, Pete and Edna Yanczer are to be commended for their support and the work that they put in to prepare and edit our Bulletin. They too, have a difficult challenge in following the work of James Fred and Maryilyn Johnston. If I omitted anyone, I assure you that it is not intentional. I do not know everyone yet but I look forward to that privilege.

My love of radio began when I reached into the bottom of the family Freed Eiseman and received a nice shock. I remember that I found that the RF amplifier tubes in that radio had lead shields on them to reduce the microphonics that were a part of radio in those days, I hasten to add that I was a mere toddler when this took place. The first project I ever built was a one tube amplifier that used a type 30 tube. This was to amplify the output from a Crystal set I had which was used with a pair of Cannon headphones. Later, I began "picking up" old radios such as Lyric, Silvertone and Balkite. I thought I had gone "Big Time" when through a radio repairman, I purchased a very large Philco 23X with a 2 speed turntable, inclined speaker board, and comparatively powerful superhet chassis. Bear in mind that, up to that point, I had only been working with TRFs. The power supply components and turntable for the Philco 23X are still here and I now wish that I would have kept this radio intact.

After high school, I went into the field of radio parts distribution, (Srepco Inc., Dayton Ohio). Then I began attending the University of Dayton where I was enrolled in Electrical Engineering until encountering medical problems which resulted in my not being able to continue. TV was just establishing itself at that time and I remember that many of the radio repairmen were bringing me circuit diagrams of TV sets that they were attempting to repair and asking for help. We didn't even own a TV at this point and here I was being asked for assistance.

The luck I had in remote analysis gave me the "courage of my convictions" and I then opened "Apex Radio & TV Service" in Dayton. I may have understood TV and radio, but I wasn't aware of business costs etc. Although I built quite a business repairing "problem sets" from a number of repairmen, the accounting ledger indicated this was not a profitable venture. Fortunately, Srepco came along with an opportunity that was so attractive that I went back into distribution as the assistant manager of the Test Equipment and Amateur Radio Department. There I saw and sold many of the radios and test equipment that are now considered to be collectable.

I remained in Distribution for over 40 years moving into Industrial Electronics at the Pioneer-Standard Corporation. Later I joined Allied Electronics as their District Office Supervisor and then became District Sales Manager. Then I went with Esco Inc., the Motorola "Brown Goods" distributor for that area, and became the General Manager of their Cincinnati Division. Although Motorola still had radios in their line, the big push was on "Quasar", their solid state TV product. I eventually rejoined Pioneer and moved to Indiana to help establish their Pioneer/Indiana division.

After moving here, I had the pleasure of calling on RCA, both Delco divisions, Magnavox, and many others which kept me in touch with what was happening in Radio. I met Dr. Ed Taylor at P.R. Mallory, during this time who told me about the IHRS. I was involved in too many things at that time so I declined his invitation to join. Looking back, I wish I would have come aboard then. Finally, I went with Bell Industries for over 5 years and then retired. This has enabled me to get back into the flow of life that included the pursuit of collecting radios. The thrill of coming across a "find" certainly keeps the blood flowing when I attend the IHRS and other events. I went to the now famous Ford Dearborn Museum auction recently and was on hand when the "Sale of the Century" took place and \$49,000 was
(continued on page 6)

the winning bid for a Marconi 101 receiver. Everything there was "too rich for my blood". It was educational but did nothing to increase my collection. I would have fared better had I attended the MSARC event that took place in Lexington that weekend.

As to goals for the IHRS, I hope to do as much as I can to help the membership grow through more avenues of publicity. I feel that it would be interesting for our club to gather material that could be edited into book form on the History of Indiana Radio manufacturers. I have already read some of the articles that have appeared in our Bulletin on this subject. Typically, the Indiana Historical Society has sought after and participated in publishing this type of literature.

As to coming events, the next meet will take place at the Holiday Inn just off of Emerson on the southeast side of Indianapolis on Saturday, February 17th, 1996. Herman Gross has booked the Ramada at the regular Kokomo location for the big annual May event but we are in need of someone from that area to be the chairman to coordinate this program. Mike Clark will have a word on the August meeting elsewhere in this bulletin as well as a map for the location of the February session.

Glenn Fitch has confirmed and paid for the Greenfield, Riley Park facility for our function that takes place on Saturday, October 12th. So it appears that the schedules are all in place for 1996, thanks to the wonderful efforts of the people who worked on these items. So as to prepare ourselves for the future, other sites are being investigated at this time. I look forward to seeing all of you at our meets with your help and suggestions.

Sincerely,
Bob O'Friel



EDITORS NOTE: Our new president is also an accomplished musician and band leader. He has been producing a radio show for some 18 years about jazz in the 1920's and 30's. He recently aired a 3 part episode that tied in the show with radios of that era.

P. Y.

My 1920 Wireless Station

by Russ Rennaker, W9CRC

My 1920 station consisted of a 1 kw spark transmitter with a rotary spark gap and a crystal detector receiver. The inductance for the transmitter was made of 1/2 inch copper strip wound on a wooden helical form. "Tuning" was accomplished by moving a clip from one turn to another. The capacitors were fruit jars with aluminum foil glued to both inside and outside. The receiver was a galena crystal complete with cat-whisker. The inductance for the receiver was two Rolled Oats boxes, the smaller inserted inside the larger one and both wound with #26 magnet wire. The outside winding contained a sliding contact that allowed the selection of the correct number of turns. The variable capacitor for the receiver was two six inch square pieces of glass with aluminum foil glued to one side of each. A mechanism allowed tuning by moving the top glass, like opening and closing a book. The range of the transmitter was only a few hundred miles but the range of the receiver was much greater and often I could hear powerful government stations thousands of miles away, and sometimes ships at sea. Here is a trick the operators used at the end of a transmission. They would hold down the key and turn off the rotary gap motor. The tone of the signal varied according to the speed of the slowing down motor causing a wierd musical effect. The crash of the spark and the smell of ozone generated by it is still fresh in my memory. It is hard to imagine anything so crude could have been an effective means of communication. But it was. The spark was king of the airways for many years.



The author at age 13 with his home made radio station

UNSUNG HERO

Lincoln Norman Rauland, known as Norm or Norman to friends and relatives was born in Norway in 1898. At an early age, his parents brought him to America and he spent his youth in Traverse City, Michigan.

As young as he was in 1909, he was interested in radio, but in his college days in Chicago, he was training to go into the practice of law. World War I interfered and he was drafted into the Army's Signal Corps. His first jobs there were in the area of law, but the radio part of this service evidently got to him. As far as can be learned, his formal training in electronics was only in the Signal Corps. He was to become quite proficient in radio and attained the rank of 1st Lieutenant.

He did have an Amateur Radio license (call letters unknown at this writing) and one of his biggest thrills was contacting the Byrd Antarctic Expedition successfully. Other radio experience of Rauland's consisted of supervising the coil winding department of Belden Mfg. Co.

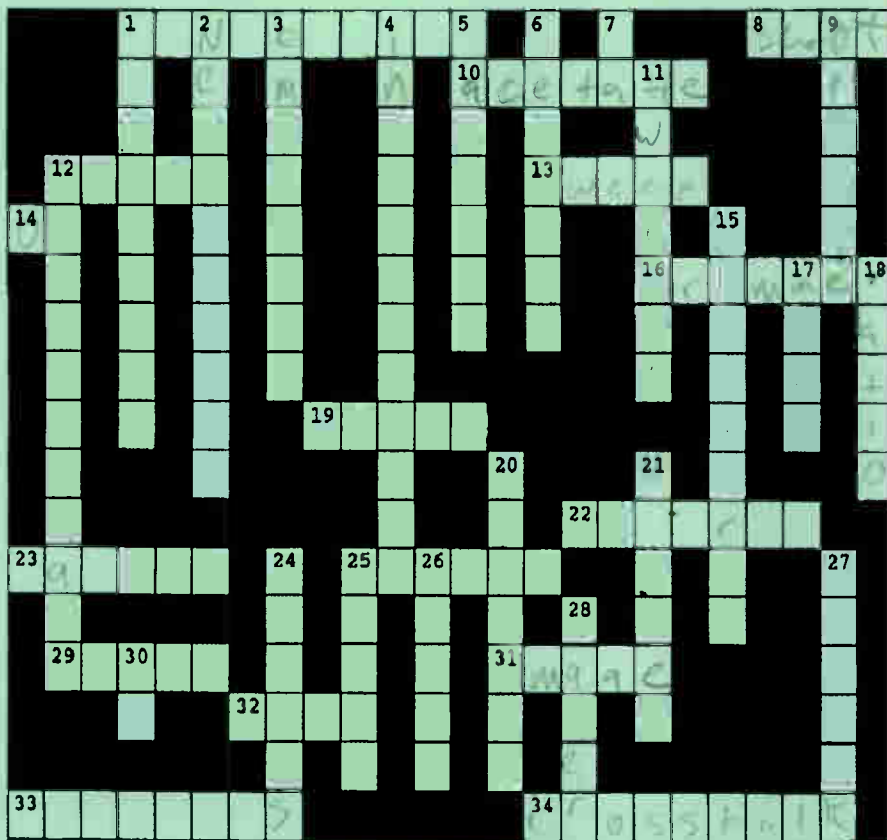
His Rauland Mfg. Company was started in 1920, featuring All-American brand equipment, mostly audio transformers. The name came from the 82nd All American division in which he had served during the war. We all know how successful the company was from the great number of parts and sets that are still around.

By the fall of 1924, Rauland went on the air with his own radio station, WENR, a 10 watt he had built in the basement of his home (note that the ENR of WENR are his initials). This station's transmitter was built on a board 36", wide and was 20", deep. It was presumed to be so compact and light due to Rauland's experience with Signal Corps equipment. According to the book RADIO'S BEAUTIFUL DAY, this transmitter was donated to Smithsonian Institution.

(continued on page 15)

The answers to this puzzle are on page 14

RADIO TRIVIA



ACROSS -

1. MESHED DUO GRID TUBE
 8. ELECTRON NOISE IN VACUUM TUBES
 10. HOME RECORDING DISKS
 12. EXTENDS A MILLIAMMETERS RANGE
 13. CRT DEFLECTION VOLTAGES
 14. A PREDECESSOR TO THE 0Z4 TUBE
 16. TUNING CAPACITOR IN IF COILS
 19. COLOR OF THE P1 PHOSPHOR
 22. 63.5% VALUE OF AN AC SINE WAVE
 23. LOW FREQUENCY ADJUSTMENT
 25. COMMON USE FOR COPPER-OXIDE RECTIFIERS
 29. TESTS FOR ELECTRICAL BREAKDOWN
 31. DOUBLE SPOT RECEPTION
 32. COLOR OF THE P5 PHOSPHOR
 33. MODIFIED HARTLEY, CAPACITIVE TAPPED COIL
 34. MOKNEY CHATTER IN HI-FI RECEIVERS
- DOWN -
1. FM ALIGNMENT SIGNAL GENERATOR

2. A NEUTRALIZED RECEIVER
3. SIMPLE TUBE TESTER
4. UNWANTED SIGNALS
5. OSCILLATOR, TAPPED CATHODE COIL
6. AN EARLY FORM OF AM MODULATION
7. ALTERNATE NUMBER FOR A 6A4 TUBE
9. COLOR OF THE P3 PHOSPHOR
11. HIGH FREQUENCY SPEAKER
12. PHILCO TUNING INDICATOR
15. RADAR FREQUENCIES
17. A SWITCH FOR QUIETING THE AUDIO
18. COMMON FM DETECTOR
20. SQUEALS AND WHISTLES ON THE RADIO
21. MEASURES VERY HI RESISTANCES
24. DISK CUTTING NEEDLE
25. FIRST DETECTOR STAGE
26. A SOURCE OF MICROPHONIC HOWLS
27. MUTUAL CONDUCTANCE TUBE TESTER
28. OBSOLETE FORM OF SMALL CAPACITORS
30. ALTERNATE NUMBER FOR A #47 TUBE

INDIANA RADIOS

Radios have been manufactured in Indiana from the early days of broadcasting to the present. Firms such as Sears Roebuck, Montgomery Ward, Western Auto, etc., would use their TRADE-NAMES of SILVERTONE, AIRLINE, TRUE TONE, on radios made in Indiana.

This listing has been compiled with the assistance of many IHRS members including Frank Heathcote, Jim Fred, Mike Feldt, Don Johnston, Bob Shuck and others. If you have any additions to this list, please send them to: IHRS, 245 N. Oakland Ave. Indianapolis, IN, 46201-3360.

TRADE-NAME/Manufacturer (*)	Location

AIRLINE	Marion
Aladdin Mfg. Co. *	Muncie
ALADYNE	Muncie
AMACO	Richmond
AMERICAN	Indianapolis
American Apparatus Co. *	Richmond
American Radio Corp. *	Indianapolis
AHPLEX	South Bend
Anylite Electric Co. *	Ft. Wayne
APEX	Marion
Allison Pickett Co. *	Terre Haute
APCODYNE	Terre Haute
ARGYLE	Marion
ARVIN	Columbus
Arvin Industries *	Columbus
B & W Manufacturers *	Kokomo
BEARCAT	Indianapolis
Better Radio Products *	Muncie
BEVERLY	Marion
BUSH & LANE	South Bend
CAPEHART	Marion/Ft. Wayne
CARDINOLA	Indianapolis
Cardinola Radio Corp. *	I Indianapolis

CARLTON	Marion
CASE	Marion
CHALLENGER	Wabash/Lagro
CIRCULEX	Indianapolis
Circulex Radio Co. *	Indianapolis
CONTINENTAL	Ft. Wayne
CORONADO	Kokomo
CORONET	South Bend
DAVIS	Kokomo
DAWSON	Kokomo
DELCO	Kokomo
Delco Electronics *	Kokomo
DIAMOND "T"	South Bend
Diamond T Manufacturers *	South Bend
DU POY	South Bend
L. J. Eisenhour Co. *	Indianapolis
Eiectric Machine Corp. *	Indianapolis
Electronic Laboratories *	Indianapolis
ELMCO	Indianapblis
EVERYHOME	Ft. Wayne
Evansville Radio Laboratory *	Evansville
EV-RA-LAB	Evansville
FARNSWORTH	Ft. Wayne/Marion
Farnsworth Radio & Television Co. *	Ft. Wayne/Marion
FRENCH	New Castle
Jesse French & Sons Piano Co. *	New Castle
FURURE	Bloomington
GIBSON GIRL	Kokomo
GLORIETTE	Marion
GLORYTONE	Marion
GRUNOW	Marion
Guerrier Radio Corp. *	Ft. Wayne
GYPSEY	Kokomo
HANDCOCK	Fortville
HATFIELD	Indianapolis
Hatfield Electric Co. *	Indianapolis
Hiday Electric Co. *	Fortville
I.D.E.A. *	Indianapolis
Imperial Electric Co. *	Union City

(continued on page 12)

INDIANA HYPERDYNE	Marion
Indiana Mfg. & Electric Co. *	Marion
Indianapolis Gage Co. *	Indianapolis
Colin B. Kennedy Co. *	South Bend
KENT	Columbus
KING COLE	Ft. Wayne
KINGSTON	Kokomo
Kingston Radio Co. *	Kokomo
Laurel Motors Corp. *	Anderson
LE PILOTE	Union City
LYRADION	Michawaka
Lyradion Mfg. Co. *	Michawaka
MAGANAVOX	Ft. Wayne
MANTOLA	Marion
MECK	Plymouth
MELODY	Muncie
MELOTROPE	Marion
MELROSE	Marion
MEMCORE	Huntington
MIDLAND	Indianapolis
Midland Electric Mfg. Co. *	Indianapolis
MILAN	Marion
MUSIC CHEST	Marion
NICHOLSON	New Augusta
Nicholson Experimental Lab. *	New Augusta
MIDWEST	Columbus
MIGHTY MITE	Columbus
MITY MITE	South Bend
OKAY	Brazil
Okay Radio Corp. *	Brazil
ORTHOSONIC	Indianapolis
PAWAMUSE	Ft. Wayne/Marion
Patrick Research & Development Lab. *	Indianapolis
PA-TRONIC	Indianapolis
PHILLIPS	Kokomo
POWER TONE	Columbus
QUEEN QUALITY	Evansville
Queen Quality Radio Corp. *	Evansville
RADIOTROPE	Marion
REGENCY	Indianapolis
ROYAL	South Bend

ROYALE
SHOWERS
Showers Brothers Co. *
SILVERTONE
SINCLAIR
SKYLARK
Skylark Radio Corp. *
SKY-RAIDER
SLAGLE
Slagle Radio Co. *
STARR
Starr Piano Co.
STAR LEADER
STAR RAIDER
STEINITE
Steinite Laboratories' *
Thomas & Simmermann *
TILMAN
Tilman Radio Corp. *
TRAILBLAZER
TRUE TONE
JHL
United Radio & Mfg. Co. *
J. S. Radio *
/ISO
Nashburn Burner Corp. *
Nasmuth-Goodrich *

Kokomo
Bloomington
Bloomington
Kokomo
Anderson
Rising Sun
Rising Sun
Ft. Wayne
Ft. Wayne
Ft. Wayne
Richmond
Richmond
Marion
Ft. Wayne
Ft. Wayne
Ft. Wayne
Marion
Wabash/Lagro
Wabash/Lagro
Plymouth
Kokomo
Indianapolis
Gary
Marion
Indianapolis
Kokomo
Peru

TO ALL IHRS MEMBERS.

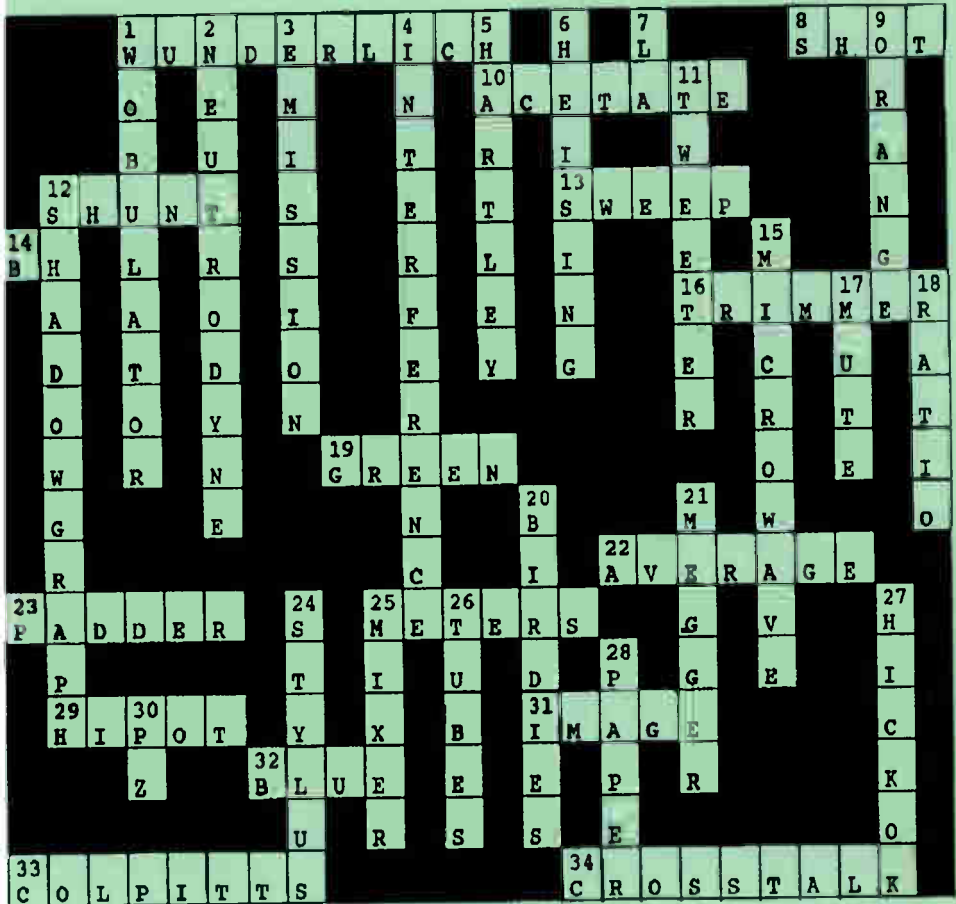
It was an unexpected and pleasant surprise to be honored and awarded such a beautiful plaque for my article in the IHRS Bulletin.

Much of the credit should go to Jim Cross, a member of ARCO and to Marilyn Johnston for their editing efforts in making the article more readable. I thank you all for this honor.

Sincerely

LEO GIBBS

RADIO TRIVIA



MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR....

This is the third crossword puzzle since I've become the editor of the IHRS Bulletin. I've had little to no feedback on how these are being received by the membership. If there is only a limited interest, there is certainly a better use for the newsletter space that they occupy. Therefore, unless there is a positive response through postcards or phone calls directly to me between now and the next bulletin deadline, the plan is to use this space for other purposes.

So... if you want to see more of these puzzles, write or call.
 Peter Yanczer, Editor

The station was hardly a year old when Rauland hired an announcer named Everett Mitchell with whom he formed a great friendship. The Rauland Mfg. Company was going well during the early days of WENR and was its only financial support when commercials were still unknown. Still Rauland was able to get his Radio Company plugs in by announcing that this is the All American Radio station in Chicago, and it did improve business. Mitchell later became famous for his line " Its a beautiful day in Chicago", no matter what the weather. Rauland even did occasional stints as announcer at the station.

In April of 1925, the name of Rauland's business was changed to the All-American Radio Company in ads in Radio News and probably other publications. He was now advertising radio kits along with transformers Also, early in 1925, Rauland was building a 100 watt transmitter so his station could cover a wider area to include Wisconsin, Indiana and Michigan. While this was being done, he was planning a 1000 watt transmitter for Denver to New York coverage. This time, he called on the Western Electric Company to build it and it went into operation in August 1925 and did accomplish the anticipated coverage. Everett Mitchell was now the station Manager and put WENR ahead of all other broadcasters by establishing a firm schedule of broadcasts. Early in 1926, one of the many firsts of the station was the building and successful use of a battery powered 10 lb. transmitter for remote broadcasts where phone lines were not available. The All-American engineers did the design and construction of the unit. The station was so successful that Samuel Insull offered Rauland 1.5 million dollars for it in the last weeks of 1927. (continued on page 25)

METER MAGIC - or, what? - a WATTMETER?

The scene - an IHRS flea market. With hands in pockets I approached a seller's table crowded with meters: voltmeters, ammeters, milliameters - even ohmmeters - all of which I have by the bushel. As I turned away a VERY FAMILIAR old name caught my eye - ROLLER SMITH. That company had (has?) its factory back in my home town: I used to deliver newspapers to their office back in the early '30s. Obviously I stopped dead in my tracks for another look. Here was a very tired old direct-reading wattmeter (not a watt-HOUR meter). The poor thing had undoubtedly spent many many years faithfully guarding some switchboard in a very hostile industrial environment. It was dirty with that grime that isn't easily removed and its poor pointer was bent. The price tag read \$2.00, but as I appeared to be interested, the owner admitted he'd take a 'buck-as-is'. Hiding my joy as best I could (since I'd have given TEN TIMES that for memory's sake), I forked over uno dollair. Further questioning regarding the meter's history brought a blank wall - it had been part of some 'junque' recently acquired. The owner did not know how to test it, and hadn't bothered to clean it up. "t'was one less thing to drag home". I placed this find high on my work-agenda, carefully - and lovingly -cleaning it up. It is a rather large instrument - fully six inches in diameter, designed for 'external' mounting: front-of-panel. (in early days they used slate panels.) The last patent date is Feb 1921, making it an antique. Of the four #10/24 terminals protruding from the rear, only two read continuity - about one ohm, while the others read open. Full scale calibration was 750 watts. As I had anticipated, when opened up I found what I recall was termed a 'dynamometer' type instrument - two coils controlling a moving vane to activate the pointer. one coil carried the load current, the other the applied voltage. (See Fig. 1) The pointer responded to the PRODUCT of the two magnetic fields, thus mechanically solving the familiar equation: $P = I \times E$. Further inspection showed severe corrosion at the soldered joints. (The materials used for soldering back in the 'dark days' were plagued with corrosion-generating impurities). Careful cleaning and resoldering restored continuity, the pointer was straightened, and THE METER WORKED. And it was fairly accurate when connected to a 150 watt amp, maybe + or - 5%.

Now came the real challenge. The 750 watts full-scale sensitivity was not ideal for my use - I'd like a 0-250 scale. How does one change the sensitivity of a meter, my friend? Why obviously, you monkey around with the SHUNT if it's an ammeter, or the series resistor if it's a voltmeter. RIGHT? This time you're WRONG, Virginia - this instrument

had NEITHER shunt nor series resistor - just the two coils. NOW WHAT? certainly rewinding either of the coils would be impossible. THINK-THINK-THINK. Make one of the coils APPEAR to have more turns - OR make it get MORE CURRENT. Since the series coil had the lower resistance, I chose to work with that part of the equation. An autotransformer became the solution. Using the core from an old filter choke, I 'guessed' at a primary winding of fifty turns using #22 wire, followed by another 125 turns - the 'extra' turns intended to make up for core losses. VOILA. As connected per Fig.2, a 100 ohm resistor load, with line voltage of 115, (133 watts) my meter now indicated about 410 watts, a tad too high. Momma-mia. I removed 15 of those extra 25 turns and was satisfied with the results. Using black ink, I carefully marked off a new zero to 250 watt scale. My old friend is now a permanent part of my variac-controlled bench test gear. How did the pointer get bent??? I can only guess that some half-slow technician connected that low-resistance coil DIRECTLY ACROSS the line. Ouch. I bet THAT popped a fuse.

CHESTER A. GEHMAN. 150 Burwell Rd. Winsted, CT. 06098

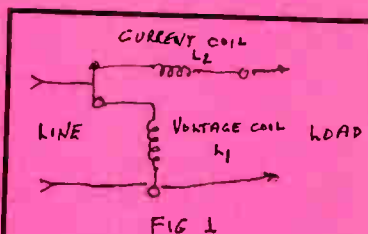


FIG 1

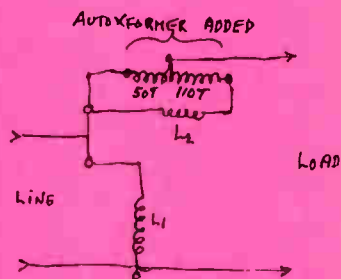


FIG 2

EDITORS COMMENT. Chester's, idea is certainly a good one, but it should be noted and kept in mind, that this change will triple the current in the one ohm load current winding(s). In the original configuration, these coils would have passed 6.5 amperes with a 750 watt input to the meter at 115 volts. The current coils of the meter would with this load dissipate 6.5 watts. After the change suggested by Chester, the current coils would pass three times their normal input at a 250 watt input. They would therefore dissipate 19.5 watts. Due to coil heating, the increased coil resistance would allow dissipations in excess of 20 watts. This may not be a safe condition and care must taken to see that the meter coils are not damaged by the increased heating that is sure to take place.

P. Y.

Why I Like Old Radios

MICHAEL A. CLARK, PH D, M D

Why are perfectly normal adults , many of whom were born after WW II, absolutely obsessed with old radios and ancient radio programs so long before they were born? Why are they able to identify a particular radio from a partial profile glimpsed at a yard sale at 60 miles per hour? What is the source of the irrepressible urge that compels them to bypass a roadside oasis of fast food delight and drive a car full of whining children 10 miles down a dirt road at twilight in a thunderstorm following a series of "GARAGE SALE" signs in the glorious quest for a radio, only to encounter a dead end with no place to turn around, largemean dogs and bearded toothless creatures with shotguns? I'm sure that there are almost as many theories concerning the cause of the disease, ANTIQUE RADIO ADDICTION, as there are antique radio addicts. Some of the theories invoke such concepts as reincarnation, and other theories involve more modern concepts as radiation damage of DNA . I can't speak for all the antique radio addicts , but following eight years of living with a relapse of my youthful disease, I am now sure that my late father, Herbert A. ("Buck") Clark, is responsible for my radio addiction.

It all began innocently when the boredom of a rainy Midwestern summer afternoon drove a seven year old boy to explore a seldom used book case in the corner of our mysterious "front room". There, on the top



Figure 1

shelf in the corner with a copy of DR. JEKYL AND MR. HYDE. was a small worn and unfamiliar gray scrapbook. Pasted on the heavy black pages were small newspaper articles, advertisements and occasional photo-

graphs. The photographs all depicted my father, either alone or with several other performers, playing the guitar. One large photograph featured my father and my Uncle Bud along with a lady I'd never seen before dressed up like movie stars, or possibly like John Dillinger, Harry Pierpoint and Billy Frechette on the lam from the cops (Figure 1). There were advertisements for The Virginia Hotel and The Airport Lounge-establishments that had ceased to exist in the Columbus, Ohio of 1953. These advertisements all featured the usual 1930's byline of " ..and for your entertainment while dining

and dancing, we feature the musical group.. "The groups in the ads were "The Airmen", "The Melody Islands Duo" and the very mysterious and exotic sounding, "Theronoid Hawaiians" (Figure 2). The one common element in all the musical groups was the inclusion of my father's name in the list of performers.

Rather than first asking my mother what all of this meant (which was my preferred mode of asking serious questions at that time), I took the scrapbook directly to my father and asked: "Were you a movie star?" After putting

down The Columbus Dispatch, his reply was: "No, but I used to make a living playing the guitar at county fairs, the old Port Columbus airport and The Virginia Hotel. For a while, we had a show on the radio which was on twice a week." The fact that my father had once had his own radio program impressed me and forever changed my image of him as just another one of the many hardworking fathers on our block. He was special, he had been a star. It was then that my father introduced me to the wonders of radio through a blonde wood Art Deco cabinet in our living room, viz., a Wilcox-Gay Recordio, Model A70. This wonderful object d'art was purchased I was told, "on time" from The Bud Company before WW II. It held an AM/SW radio (with a "Magic Eye" tuning indicator) and a 78 RPM record player with a second recording arm on

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AIRMEN



Weldon Groves, left; Herb Clar, center, and Harry Lave-rack are the men making up the unit known as the Airport Trio. They play nightly at the Airport Restaurant. Foods and beverages are tasty, there is no cover charges and you may watch the big airliners come and go.

Playing nightly at the **AIRPORT** **RESTAURANT**

THE AIRPORT TRIO
Electric Guitars and Bass Viol.
BEER—NO COVER CHARGES
Noon Lunches 50c, Dinners 75c,
85c, \$1.00.
Steaks, Chop, Chicken, Spag-
hetti served in the Airport—
overlooking the landing field.
The Finest Food Obtainable.
Fort Columbus, Ohio.

Airport has music

Mrs. Rose Alexander, manager of the Airport Restaurant, is announcing her new summer policy of presenting entertainment for the patrons who enjoy her fine foods and beverages. She has booked the Airport Trio to play nightly. This organization, comprised of Weldon Groves, Herbert Clark and Harry Tavernack, play electric guitars and bass viol.

The Airport Restaurant in the port administration building overlooks the flying field and due to its pleasant surroundings is very popular. A very complete menu is available and beverages are served. Banquets and parties can be accommodated upon reservation.

Figure 2

the turntable that allowed for recording programs "off the air" or live recordings of anything within microphone range (at 70 pounds or so and with 120 vac as a power source, "portable" was a concept that didn't apply to a Recordio console). The complex instructions for operating this electronic marvel were passed down to me in a verbal form much akin to epic poetry which contained numerous admonitions of what not to do with the equipment. (Without telling my father, I soon discovered the instruction book and found that operation of this family treasure was less complex than had been presented to me in the oral tradition of "The Saga of The Recordio".)

Up until that time, radio for me had largely consisted of occasionally listening to episodes of "The Whistler", "The Lone Ranger" and "Suspense" whenever the weather was bad or there was nothing else to do. Now things were different: with this gigantic console I could pick up out of town AM stations like WHIZ in Zanesville, Ohio (I remember, this was the station Billy Batson worked for when he wasn't transformed into Captain Marvel). At night, I could hear SW BBC broadcasts and practice my British accent and, of course, tune in foreign language stations which remain unintelligible to me more than 40 years later. Once my interest in radio had lasted for several months, my father suddenly remembered how to build crystal sets. We wound our first coil on the traditional American coil form, i.e., an empty Quaker's oatmeal box, which was shellacked in a fashion that remains a Clark family secret to this day. We also discovered that antenna coils from the many defunct consoles I had cannibalized for parts made great crystal set coils. At one time, we had about 40 crystal sets which were built in an incredible variety of different containers. My father was familiar only with cat's whisker and galena crystal detectors and when the Lafayette and Olson catalogs began selling "1N34 equivalents" at 12 for 88 cents, building our crystal sets were almost too easy for him because there was no longer the challenge of finding "the right spot" on the galena crystals.

Around 1959, I found a circuit in The Boy's Second Book of Radio and Electronics by Alfred P. Morgan that allowed me to add a single inexpensive stage of transistor amplification to a crystal set. Because my parents were supportive of my youthful radio addiction, the Philmore crystal set kits were gradually replaced by more complex devices culminating in a Harmon Kardon stereo amplifier kit for Christmas in my senior year in high school. At that time, there were probably about 40 radios crammed into our basement with the cannibalized remains of countless other sets.

Attrition reduced my radio inventory to a Hallicrafters SX-28 A and a Crosley "Fiver" and a few radio books by the time we settled in Indiana in 1987 where I began to see old radios at sales and actually bought a number of them before I had any idea of what I was doing. Some of these sets worked and others hummed, smoked or did nothing. I remembered that a 60 cycle hum meant a leaky filter capacitor and it was then that I made the discovery that you don't just go down to the local corner electronics store and buy 8 ufd, 450 volt electrolytic capacitors anymore.

Although there is no "Radio Addicts Anonymous", there is The Indiana Historical Radio Society and other groups where victims of antique radio addiction are periodically brought together for rituals known as "swap meets", "auctions" and "open air flea markets". I have learned from a number of people I have met at these ritualistic gatherings that many of us have a common factor in our backgrounds, i.e., someone in our family owned or worked in a radio shop or was a radio performer. Following my father's death in 1990, I remembered the gray scrapbook with the newspaper clippings and found it, unchanged, in his bedroom closet along with some old Recordio disks labeled with his name. My father's group was called "The Theronoid Hawaiians" and was composed of my father, Herbert A. ("Buck") Clark, his brother, Charles ("Bud") and a vocalist, Dorothy DeGood. In addition to their biweekly 15 minute slot on WCAH Columbus, Ohio they also played The Ohio State Fair and many of Ohio's 88 county fairs. Their radio sponsor was the mysterious and now all but forgotten "Theronoid" which my father recalled as "some sort of a quack medical device which was supposed to cure everything". (Figure 3)

I remembered my father telling me that WCAH had become WBNS which is an extant Columbus, Ohio radio station at a frequency of 1460 khz. A letter to the station manager of WBNS prompted a reply from Bari L. Pugh, the promotion director, of WBNS who shared an outline of the station's history which was compiled by a retired station engineer, Bob Dildine. WCAH was estab-



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Figure 3

lished in 1924 by Mr. C.A. Entrekin, the owner of The Entrekin Electric Company on the premises of his business and initially operated on a power of 15 watts. The station power was increased first to 100 and then to 500 watts before going off the air when Mr. Entrekin moved to Florida for a brief period. Mr. Entrekin returned to Columbus and WCAH was again on the air at a frequency of 1230 KC. The station was next sold to The International Bible Students who formed The Commercial Radio Service Company who first moved the station to a different location. Next, studios were constructed on the 13th floor of the Fort Hayes Hotel (which was demolished in the late 1960's). A used transmitter purchased from a Detroit station was installed and the station broadcast for four hours a day with a staff of five people. Rent was paid in the form of on air advertising for The Hotel Fort Hayes WCAH's broadcasting day, expanded to cover 7:00 A.M.-10:00 P.M. during the period 1927-1929 and a new \$30,000 Western Electric transmitter was installed in 1929. The station began taking CBS Network overflow programming in 1929 and in 1933, the station was sold and the call letters changed to WBNS and the frequency changed to 1430 kc. In 1941, their operating frequency was increased to 1460 kc by the FCC and WBNS continues to operate on this frequency today.

The one advertisement for "The Theronoid Hawaiians" gives a time slot of 5:30-6:00 P.M. which means that the program aired sometime after 1929, but before 1933 when WCAH became WBNS. The office address given in the newspaper ad as "518 Atlas Building" was a block south of The Hotel Fort Hayes where his broadcasts originated. Here, I am afraid we have reached the end of the story of the heretofore unknown radio trio, except to say that my father quit radio and performing at the beginning of WWII, but my Uncle Bud continued giving music lessons until he died in the late 1950's. Dorothy DeGood married a banker, retired from radio and died recently.

I still have the dusty Recordio discs that I first played as a child and they are in pretty sorry shape. Fortunately, Tim Verthein of The Disc Recording Club Of America was able to transcribe them to tape for me. I had hoped for a few transcriptions of "The Theronoid Hawaiians", but what I got was my father, grandfather and sister singing as well as part of a Bing Crosby radio program. At least I have that much as well as a love of old radio sets and old radio programs which I inherited from my father, the last Theronoid Hawaiian.

M.C.

HAVE YOU READ?

by Ed Taylor D.Sc.E.E.

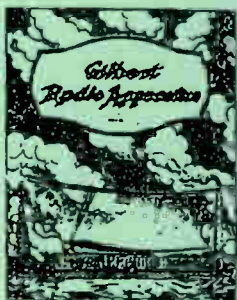


Gilbert Radio Apparatus - 1919

Antique Radio Press has just reprinted one of the early booklets on our hobby. This treatise was written by Clarence D. Tuska when he was employed by the A.C. Gilbert Company of New Haven Conn. (Erector Sets and American Flyer trains) Subtitled "WIRELESS INSTRUCTIONS" this 64 page manual gives theory and practical application on how to make both transmitting and receiving apparatus plus chapters on code, Q signals, time signals, and a list of radio stations which were broadcasting in 1919.

The pictured Gilbert RADIOTECTOR seems to be rather mysterious device which used a crystal plus another detector which is touted to be superior to the crystal. A tubular audion detector is illustrated in a modular box to be used with a pancake type loose coupler. These radio units were sold as complete sets or in kit form.

Available for \$10.95 + \$2.00 postage from Antique Radio Press, RR. 1, Box 41, Cutler, IN 46920 or see Jim Fred at the next IHRS meeting. Jim is also preparing to reprint a 1923 GILBERT RADIO CATALOG.





WEYDIG PIANO CORPORATION

MANUFACTURERS OF

**Radi-O-Players
Pianos and Players**

**133rd St. and Brown PL
NEW YORK CITY**

Phone Mott Haven 7403 (1926)

CHICAGO RADIO LABORATORY ZENITH COLLECTORS

John H. Bryant, AIA and Harold N. Cones, PhD, authors of *The Zenith Trans-Oceanic*, *The Royalty of Radios* along with well known Zenith collector Bill Wade are currently in the research phase for their next book tentatively called *Zenith Radio: The Foundation Years, 1919-1933*.

A major feature of this book will be the history of Chicago Radio Laboratory, the precursor to Zenith. The authors are attempting to create a list of all CRL models, whether receivers or accessories, which still exist. They would greatly appreciate it if all collectors holding CRL radio products would contact them at their address below with information about specific models in their collections and the suitability/availability of those artifacts for photography and inclusion in the new book. The authors would also like to know of CRL catalogs, manuals or memorabilia which are in the hands of collectors. CONFIDENTIALITY WILL BE PROTECTED IN EVERY CASE.

It is the authors intention to develop a list detailing the results of this survey (but not the names of the collectors) and to share it with all who respond to this request.

Collectors are asked to respond as soon as possible. The list will be completed to include responses received before February 15, 1995. THANK YOU! This is a real chance to contribute to the recording of this important part of early radio history.

Please respond to the authors at:
**The Radio Professors,
P.O. Box 592,
Stillwater, OK, 74076**



*Merry Cristmas
to you and your family
and hoping you will
have a good year in 1996*

From the IHRS officers

*Bob O'Friel
Clif Bolton
Alex Whitaker
Mike Clark
Ed Taylor*

(continued from page 15)

It was such a good offer that it was accepted. In 1929 Rauland left the All-American Mohawk organization and bought out its transformer business. He continued this operation as the Rauland Corp. As Rauland was a man who did not seek the limelight, not much written material is available on the period after the sale of WENR. He was however keeping up to date on developments and obviously believed in the certainty of television in the near future as he began the manufacture of cathode ray tubes at the Rauland Corp before WW II. This facility was able to supply the U.S. and its allies with many of the cathode ray tubes so necessary during the war for radar. In 1948, the Rauland Corp. was sold to Zenith for making their television picture tubes, except for a small division making commercial amplifiers and miscellaneous which Zenith didn't care to acquire. This division was to become the Rauland-Borg Corp. (Borg, of Borg-Warner was a partner). At this time, Rauland was Chairman of the Board of Zenith Radio and Television. The Rauland-Borg Corp. is still in existence, even though Rauland died in 1975 at the age of 77. Rauland's grandson, Norman Kidder, still works at Rauland-Borg and. was kind enough to supply me with much of what is written here.

As you see, E.N. Rauland had a great impact on radio and television development with entirely too little credit given. Other details of Rauland's life came from Alan Douglas' Volume I of "Radio Manufacturers of 20's" and "Radio's Beautiful Day" by Richard Crabb.

George Hauske
1922 E. Indiana Street Wheaton, Illinois 60187

RADIOADS

FOR SALE ADS

Book... Limited Edition reprint. "Bits of Wireless History". Gray 's history of Wireless Museum by Jack Gray. First printing- 1969. \$18 pp. Charles Stinger, 404 Ross Ave. Hamilton, Ohio 45013
Ph 513-867-0079

202 copies of "Radio Age", Dec. 1975 to Mar. 1993. \$150 for all... 3 tube, 201A, 3 honeycomb coil receiver in cabinet, \$125. Arthur J. Bardish, 4042 Herman Ave. Grand Rapids, MI 49509-

Rebuilding of twist-loc and wet capacitors. \$14 for a single plus \$1 per additional section. Add \$2 for shipping. Everett Hoard, PO Box 218, Lehr, ND 58460
Ph/Fax 701-378-2341

STORY & CLARK grandfather clock radio in great shape and working You must

These ads are free to IHRS members. Please limit them to 50 words or less.

pick up. \$450. George Hauske, 1922 E. Indiana, Wheaton, IL 60187
Ph 708-668-3845

Six, X-199 tubes. Paramount label. Also two type # 10 tubes, new in cartons. Paul Sommer, 16415 Viberg, Leo, IN 46765
Ph 219-627-2838

Package of 11 radio catalogs from 1940 to 1980. Six are Allied Radio, 1954 to 1979. \$55 plus shipping. Also a Western Electric No. 26 Pole Changer mounted on an oak base. \$45 Ross Smith, 1133 Strong Ave. Elkhart, IN 46514. Ph 219-295-7770

Russ Rennaker has some copies of his "A Radio Journal" left. Send \$8 for your copy. Include \$1 for postage please. Send to: R.B. Rennaker, 1011 Linda Drive, Kokomo, IN 46902
Ph 317-453-3709

RADIOADS

WANTED ADS

1934-35 General Electric Console radios, model M-85, M-89, A-86 & A-88. Please write to John A. Checchio Jr. 2629 Decamp Ct. Apt 124 Elkhart, In 46517

Ph 219-295-7230

Riders Manuals, 2, 4 & 5. Can pick up at the Winter Meet in Indianapolis. Bob Sands. 40 Dow Court. Fairfield, OH 45014-3509 Ph 513-858-1755

Farm Broadcasting Memories: Audio tapes, photos, articles and posters. For a research project of 1940-1950 farm broadcasting.

Jerry McCoy, Star Rt. 12, Cardinal, VA 23025. Call if you have something.

Ph 804-725-3817

VIKING, reel to reel tape deck, model 86. Also need a volume 17 Riders manual.

These ads are free to IHRS members. Please limit them to 50 words or less.

Call if you have something. John S. Jones, 4453 S. 200 E, Anderson, IN. 46017 Ph 317-644-0244

I'm still looking for a COLOR-TEL adapter in any condition. Give me a call if you have one. Peter Yanczer

Ph 314-822-1748

Western Electric Amps, Spkrs, Parts. Also Altec, Brook & Jensen. Mike Somers, 2432 W. Fargo, Chicago, IL 60645

Ph. 312-338-0153

Here's the IHRS attendance at the various meets over the past 2 years. (Families)

	Indy	Kokomo	Elkhrt	Grnfl
1994	150	153	58	55
1995	132	154	94	72

Hey! we need for you to help out with articles or letters for the newsletter. Long or short... Bitchy, newsy or sweet. Let's hear from you either way.

The Editor

Coming Events



The 1996 Winter IHRS meeting will be held at the usual location of The Holiday Inn Southeast in Indianapolis, Indiana on Saturday, February 17, 1996 from 7:00 A.M. until 2:00 P.M. Admission is \$3.00 per family plus \$2.00 per sellers space. The hotel is located at 5120 Victory Lane (see map). The hotel is holding a block of 25 rooms until February 6, 1996 at a rate of \$59.00 plus tax. Please mention the I.H.R.S. when making your reservation at 317-783-7751.

A buffet luncheon at a cost of \$10.00 per person will be served at 12:30 P.M. followed by a short business meeting. The contest will be for "My favorite table radio". Please bring an entry. For further information, contact:

Dr. Mike Clark 317-738-4649
Alex Whitaker 317-535-4174

