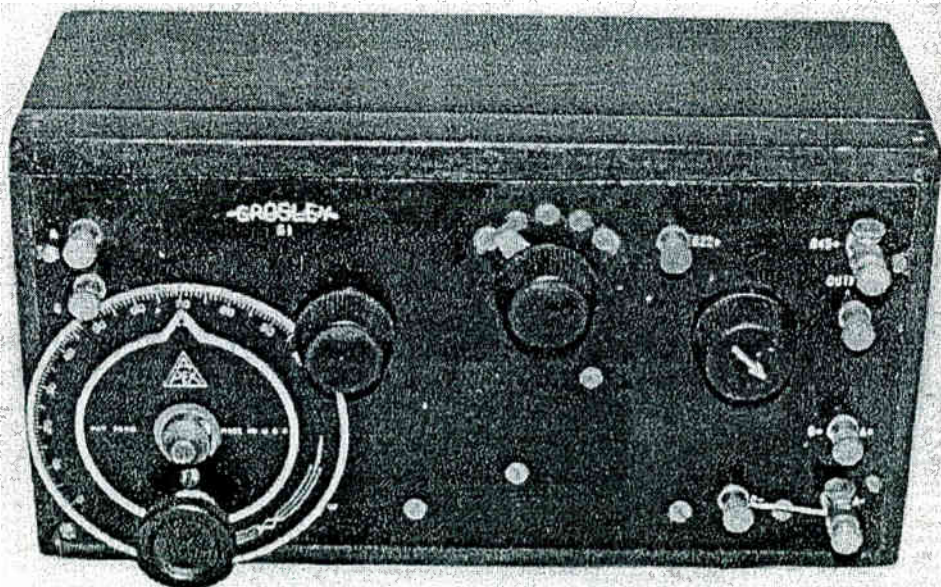


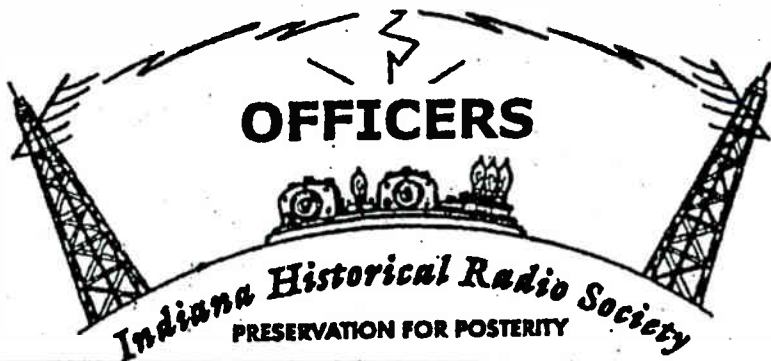
BULLETIN

Indiana Historical Radio Society
PRESERVATION FOR POSTERITY

Vol 30 SPRING, 2001 No. 1



Crosley and Kiel Table information in this issue!!!



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(revised 3/24/01)

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Bulletin Deadlines, News, Articles & Radio-ads, 2/15, 5/15, 8/15, 11/15

IHRS e-mail Web site address = www.indianahistoricalradio.org

The INDIANA HISTORICAL RADIO SOCIETY is a non-profit organization founded in 1971. Annual membership dues are \$15.00/year or 2 yrs./\$25.00, which includes the quarterly IHRS "BULLETIN". Radio-Ads are free to all members. Please include a S.A.S.E. when requesting information. Send applications for membership and renewals to Fred Prohl, our treasurer as noted above.

IHRS ACTIVITIES for 2001, our 30TH YEAR

**** JOINT IHRS - AWA MEET ****

JUNE 8 & 9 SPRING FESTIVAL NEW LOCATION
Hancock County Fairgrounds, **GREENFIELD**, IN 20 miles East of Indianapolis. I-70 at State Rd #9. Exit 104. This site is mostly under roof. Located on Apple St. about 2 blocks N. of US-40 and 1 mile E. of SR-9. (Just North of our Fall Foliage meeting place.) No Thursday set ups! **Registration Fri and Sat at 7 AM.** Cost is \$5.00 per family at same address for both days. Flea market space \$10.00 each, regardless if in pavilion or inside air conditioned 4-H bldg. Tables free in bldg, but you must supply your own if in the pavilion. **Pre-registration and flea market space reservations encouraged.** Don't know how many indoor spaces available at this time. Water and electric hookups available for one time fee of \$5.00. Send registration and table reservations to secretary / treasurer Fred Prohl. Make checks payable to IHRS. **Deadline** for pre-registration and flea market space is **June 2.** **Motels:** No blocks reserved. (All located South of I-70 on SR-9) **Lee's Inn**, 2270 N. State St., 317-462-7112 or 1-800-733-5337. **Super-8**, 2100 N. State St., 317-462-8899 or 1-800-800-8000. (They have quoted \$45.79 + tax to some of us, but rooms are scarce. Must have AARP, AAA or VIP card for this rate.) **Comfort Inn**, 178 Martindale Dr., 317-467-9999 or 1-800-228-5150. **Holiday Inn Express**, 2070 N. State St., 317-467-0999. **Dollar Inn**, 2180 N. State St., 317-457-0067.

FRIDAY 8 June: Old Equipment Contest: 10 AM to 11AM. Judging from 11 AM to 12 Noon. **Contest categories:** 1) Radios made in Indiana, 2) Speakers, 3) Colorful radios, 4) Factory Made Crystal Sets and 5) "Open" category. Members vote for "**Peoples Choice Award**" from 1 PM to 2:00 PM. **Special Contest Awards program** 3 PM to 4 PM in the 4H bldg. **Seminars:** 1 PM to 2:30 PM, Subjects TBD. **Annual banquet** at Ponderosa Steak House at 5:45 PM. Dutch treat.

SAT 9 JUNE: SILENT Donation and Consignment auctions.

Check in at 8 AM to 10 AM. Auction from 10:30 AM to ??. **Flea market** all day. Info: Glenn Fitch, 765-565-6911, glenn.fitch@cnz.com or Herman Gross, 765-459-8308, w9itt@mindspring.com . Fax: 1-765-868-9297.

AUG 25 NORTHERN INDIANA SUMMER MEET.

High Dive Park Pavilion, 500 E. Beardsley Ave. **ELKHART**, IN. 8:30 AM, Registration, \$5.00 per member / family. Swap and Sell in East lot. 9:30 AM, **Old Equipment Contest categories:** 1) 1920's radios, 2) Tube type radios, 3) Radio that cost collector \$20.00 or less, 4) Transistor radios and 5) My favorite radio. 10:00 AM, Silent Auction. Noon: Carry-in Lunch. 1 PM, Short business meeting and contest awards. **Motels:** About a doz. motels North and South of I-80/90 at SR-9 (Cassopolis) Exit 92. **Super-8**, 345 Webster Ave., 219-264-4457. **Red Roof Inn**, 2902 Cassopolis St., 219-262-3691. Info: Ty Gregory, 219-264-0257 or Terry Garl, 219-679-4280, ihrselk98@aol.com or.

SEPT 15 SPECIAL "OPERATING RADIO" MEET.

NOBLESVILLE, IN., Forest Park Pavilion. Indoors except for flea market. **Operating Radio Contest categories:** 1) Non-superhets and 2) Superhets. **Non-operating contest:** Your favorite radio. **Nearest motel: Super-8**, 317-776-7088 or 1-800-800-8000 (about 15 mins away on SE side of town off HWY 37). Info: Mike Feldt, 317- 844-0635, feldtm@iquest.net . Last resort, contact Herman Gross, w9itt@mindspring.com .

OCT 13 FALL FOLIAGE MEET, Riley Park,

GREENFIELD, IN. Located on Apple St. about 1 block N. of US-40 and 1/2 mile E. of SR-9. **Contest categories:** 1) Reflex radios and 2) Tombstones. **Motels:** (All located South of I-70 at SR-9, Exit 104) **Lee's Inn**, 2270 N. State St., 317-462-7112 or 1-800-733-5337. **Super-8**, 2100 N. State St., 317-462-8899 or 1-800-800-8000. **Comfort Inn**, 178 Martindale Dr., 317-467-9999 or 1-800-228-5150. **Holiday Inn Express**, 2070 N. State St., 317-467-0999. **Dollar Inn**, 2180 N. State St., 317-457-0067. Info: Glenn Fitch, 765-565-6911, glenn.fitch@cnz.com, or Herman Gross 765-459-8308, w9itt@mindspring.com .

Message from the President

Herman Gross

If you didn't make it to the Winter 2001 meet you missed the best one in a couple years. The weather cooperated and there was evidence our advertising helped as well. Thanks to Fred Prohl, George Freeman, Janet Dell (from Tiffin, OH) and Mike's mom, Ruth Clark for a super job handling the registration, table assignments and membership renewals. A smooth operation. We even had a couple new memberships. We welcome them to the IHRS.

Speaking of membership. It is noticed that we have some people who are fairly regular participants at our flea market activities but who have not paid their dues for several years. This must stop. It is not fair to those of us who do pay our dues religiously and support the organization. It is very costly to rent facilities, pay for insurance to cover you, etc. In fact, I don't believe nonmembers are covered by our insurance so consider this notification to that fact and you participate at your own risk, if we let you. If you think you're doing us a favor by showing up with a trunk full of radios and junque to show your "support" of the meets, dream on. To fully support the IHRS activities we need your dues as well as your participation. We like you guys and enjoy your company and friendship but please support the IHRS by more than attending our flea markets. The sad thing is that the people who should read this probably don't (shouldn't) get the Bulletin anymore and if they did they wouldn't read a message from the president anyway, just the free ads. But I got it off my chest. Oh my! I said I'd try to be more positive this year and also keep this missive down to 1 page.

2001 starts a new millennium and our 30th year. What a great time to inject some enthusiasm in to IHRS and our activities. Please invite your friends to our meets or suggest they join our great organization. What's more, how about volunteering (uugh!) to help at one of the meets or consider "running" for an office at the October elections in Greenfield. Alex Whitaker, past president, has graciously consented to be the Election Nominating Committee Chairman. He can be contacted at 317-535-4174, Email:

ehscott@iquest.net. Call him if you get the urge to help us....perhaps it's YOUR turn. Think it over.

We are feverishly working on the Spring Festival. Location is at the Hancock Cty 4-H fairgrounds on the East side of Greenfield, IN. We have a beautiful building and large pavilion with lots of parking space. Shirley and I look forward to seeing you there. Of course we need lots of help.....don't make us have to beg you for a little help, a couple hours or so, with registration, auction help, etc. Contact Glenn Fitch or me. Our phone and Email info is in the 2001 Activities listings. (It's interesting to see how many volunteers we get. Last year I sent out over 260 letters asking for help with the auction and I got 4 responses, one was my own. Isn't that pathetic!)

We have five (5) meets this year. The Winter meet is history. It was great...the best in a few years. See the updated listings in this Bulletin for our remaining four meets. Your participation and suggestions will go a long way in shaping the meet situation for this and subsequent years. We'll listen to all your ideas, but forget a meet on Sunday. We've heard that before, but we leave Sundays for the hamfesters.

Have you checked your club's website lately? It's www.indianahistoricalradio.org with links to our museum, AWA and ARC magazine.

Before I close I want to pass on the thanks and gratitude of the IHRS to Bill Gross of *DataBasics* Data Systems, Inc. who transferred our membership files from Mac to PC format at no cost to us. Check his web site at www.databasicsdata.com.

Herman Gross, W9ITT, President IHRS

See page 19 for the Index for this issue.

NEW IDEAS FOR SPRING CONTEST

By George A. Freeman, Contest Chair

The June 8/9 contest is IHRS' major contest for 2001.

We have much more room for contest entries this year. In order to encourage you to help make this one of the most successful IHRS contests in memory, we'll have additional CASH awards for winning entries.

We'll exploit our much larger space by encouraging context displays. "Context", meaning... "..attendant circumstances or conditions..". In addition to displaying your artifact and its documentation you are encouraged for this contest to accompany these with context support. For example: Category One is "Radios Made In Indiana". Let's say you're displaying a 1925 TRF set. You'll want to have supporting documentation like an ad for the make and model you present. And context could include an ad or two from the period, a 1925 Hoosier Cabinet ad, for example. Perhaps your significant other would like to make your entry a team effort. At AWA's 2000 Conference the wife of one competitor provided a shawl, a vase of the period and a silk flower. The couple won two first place blue ribbons for their joint efforts. Magazine ads of the twenties often feature flapper fashions. Car ads of the same period contribute authenticity and help transport us to the period manifest by the contest entry. School graduation programs often are clearly labeled with the year. If you know where to access this sort of ephemera, bring it in to support your exhibit.

Category 2 is "Speakers". Category 3: "Colorful Radios". Category 4: "Factory Made Crystal Sets, and Category 5: "Open" (Surprise us! Here's a wide open opportunity to display something you've always wanted to feature but contest rules never before permitted.) Maybe it's a console radio, a tube, or a homebrew, or a book, microphone, an autograph, crystal set, a tuning dial, a boat anchor or other ham equipment. Whatever it is, in order to win you'll need accompanying documentation and for this meet, Context.

Set-up for the contest is at 10am on Friday. Judging is from 11am until noon. Viewing will be extended this year through

Saturday and entries will not be removed until the end of the awards banquet. This gives all participants more time to show their entries and more time for the rest of us to visit the entries and talk with entrants about them.

Now, about those cash awards: This year, in order to spike contest interest, "RALOGEUM" is providing a total of \$50.00 cash (That's five ten dollar checks for each of the five first place blue ribbon winners). RALOGEUM is a forthcoming vintage radio/microphone museum combined with apartments. Thus the name: RA for radio, LOG for lodging, EUM for museum. Visitors to historic, downtown Madison, IN will be welcomed beginning in 2002. This is my enterprise. I will have RALOGEUM brochures available at the June meet.

We would like to break in a new contest judge for this event. Old timers will be available with sage advice. It's time to welcome new blood to the event. Interested? See the next paragraph.

If you have questions or comments about the contest, please e-mail me at ralogeum@aol.com. My phone and mailing address are on the inside of the front cover of this publication since I serve as your vice president.

MSARC ACTIVITES – 2001

APRIL 7, SPRING MEET, Days Inn, Henderson, KY, Info: Jim Church 812-867-0721. **JULY 21, SUMMER MEET**, Derby City Antique Mall, Louisville, KY, Info: Allen Ferris 502-543-8233 and **SEPT 29, FALL MEET**, Central Kentucky Vocational / Technical School, Lexington, KY. Info: Joe Vittow, 502-839-5444. Also info via Joe Zahnen, 423-690-5833, joezah@esper.com

NARC ACTIVITIES – 2001

FEB 4, St. Louis Park, MN. Winter workshop & Swap meet. Info: Steve Raymer, 952-926-8198. **MAY 18-19, Radio Daze** at Comfort Inn, Plymouth, MN. Info: Jim Thompson, 612-822-4000 or Kip Wallace, 612-544-2547, KipWallace@dl-inc.com

ARCI ACTIVITIES – 2001

All meets at Elgin, IL., 7-11 AM, RAMADA INN: **APR 1, JUNE 24**, Swap meets. **AUG 1-3, RADIOFEST XX**. **OCT 14 & DEC 16**, Swap meets. Info: Tom Klienschmidt 847-255-8128 or Art Bilski 630-739-1060, OLDRADIO@NTSOURCE.COM

Comments From The Editor

Bob O'Friel

The first item on the agenda is the fact that I really owe a debt of gratitude to Ed Dupart. He not only sent in two articles for the "Bulletin" which you will find in this edition, but he also came over and gave me a great amount of training and assistance with the computer. You will probably remember that a virus entered my system and lost many of my software programs. Ed was able to restore some of those and together, with his guidance, we did the front cover from items he had on floppy discs. The front cover was entirely produced digitally. This allows for a cleaner, more accurate transfer of text and picture information so that there is less editing for assembly of the "Bulletin".

This particular issue is more of a pleasure. We have articles and pictures from Herman Gross, Ray Andrejasich, Ed Dupart, Mike Clark, Ed Taylor, Fred Prohl and George Freeman. Suddenly, this is a CLUB "Bulletin". Even as we speak, I just received another article from C. A. Hall also known as "Grey Bear" just as we were going to press. In the event at the above referenced articles are not found in this issue, please be assured they will be on hand for the next edition. I am, of course, delighted to see this amount of support and response from the membership. Please keep it up! Also, it should be noted here that I/we received some additional support from our new treasurer, Fred Prohl. We were in need of updating our mailing list and reorganizing it. Herman Gross and his son managed to transfer the existing files from a "MAC" format to a PC based program which in turn, helped Fred Prohl print out the new list as well as printing the new set of labels needed for this mailing. Fred then obtained new envelopes and mounted the Mailing, and Return Address labels as well as, the postage stamps. This saved us an incredible amount of time.

Let this statement stand as an indorsement of appreciation to all those listed above. I really care about all that has been done in my behalf and in getting the "Bulletin" out.

THANKS to all.

Knowing that assistance and support of this nature is at hand can well allay the fears of those who might consider running for the Editor's position when my term expires this September. We are still seeking volunteers and, if interested, please step forward when the Nominating Committee is announced.

Bob O'Friel, Editor I.H.R.S. "Bulletin"

Ed Taylor, our historian, forwarded this article to me from the Indiana State Museum Foundation along with their approval to use the information printed here.

Two talented Hoosiers: Philo and Sarkes

Indiana State Museum Foundation article:

One was born in Southern Utah and the other in Armenia. Both men, however left a lasting legacy in an industry that had a major impact upon the post war development of the Hoosier state.

And, both are members of the Indiana Broadcast Pioneer Hall of Fame. Sarkes Tarzian, who immigrated to the United States when he was just 7 years old, is a name known to many Hoosiers, since for many years, the company that bore his name owned and operated WTTV-TV, Channel 4, that served the central Indiana area from its Bloomington facilities.

The other name is not as well known to most Hoosiers, but Philo T. Farnsworth played an integral role in the very development of the television industry. "No one person invented television" said ISM Curator of Americana Dale Ogden, "but Philo Farnsworth had as much to do with it as anybody."

In 1922, Farnsworth was only 16 when he outlined the entire basic concept of television as we have it today--even the color part. His high school notebooks were used in later years of major patent fights.

In many scientific circles, Farnsworth's name is ranked alongside those of Guttenberg; Marconi; Roentgen who developed X-ray; and Robert Milliken, the first man to measure the charge on the electron.

Much of Farnsworth's creativity was accomplished while he lived and worked in Fort Wayne, where he brought his Farnsworth Company in 1938 to merge with the struggling Capehart Company. He lived and worked in Ft. Wayne until 1967, when he returned to his native Utah just 4 years before his death. The Farnsworth Company, one of the major players in the post-war Television boom, later became Magnavox, (a merger), and has now evolved into the enterprise known as ITT.

While Philo Farnsworth was having a major impact upon the economy of northeast Indiana, Sarkes Tarzian was helping to shape the economy in and around Monroe County. He served as project manager of RCA's proximity fuse project and, from Bloomington, directed RCA's system-wide production of fuses that were used throughout World War II.

Tarzian left RCA to form his own manufacturing firm, an enterprise that produced television tuners and eventually expanded to Taiwan and Mexico.

(continued, next page)

(Two talented Hoosiers, continued)

Later, he shifted his attention to the world of mass media, owning several radio stations, a television station in Nevada and newspapers. (Also WTTV as mentioned earlier.)

It is appropriate that neither of these two men who helped shape the post-war development of Indiana were native Hoosiers; the gallery is, after all, labeled *Global Indiana*. Philo T. Farnsworth was born on an isolated farm in Utah; SarkesTarzian's family escaped cultural genocide. But, when they were most successful, they were unquestionably Hoosiers.

PERMISSION: INDIANA STATE MUSEUM FOUNDATION

An Unexpected Technical Book Source

As I read the excellent book reviews that Ed Taylor provides for our benefit, I oftentimes have to look up a source. Ed does provide the ISBN number which aids in the search of the regular Book Sales locations but, having just come across an item I thought would be of interest, I thought this might help you in updating your library and save some money at the same time. Carol came across Chuck Dachis's history of the Hallicrafter company at the "Half-Price Book Store" on west 86th Street. When she asked me if it would be of interest. When I said yes, she visited the Castleton branch which is much closer and, sure enough, it was in stock there too. The book is an excellent reference for those who are either SWLs or HAMs and contains many pictures including some color photos. It gives the year/s the unit was manufactured as well as the original selling price and tube lineup.

The overview is that many of the Hallicrafters philosophies disappeared when Bill Halligan sold the company and retired. Its greater years of success took place while Hallicrafters remained in Chicago. Once it was sold to the subsequent owners and the manufacturing site was moved, the company began branching off to activities other than that of Ham equipment and specialized communication receivers or transmitters, the beginning of the end was in sight.

She also obtained a copy of the Philip Collins book, "The Golden Years of Televisions" that takes you from the era of the RCA TKR-12 from 1939 up to the Solidstate times. The cover has a photo shot of one of the Philco "Predicta's" that represented a radical design change. All for 1/2 price!

Bob O'Friel. Editor

PEERLESS REPRODUCER

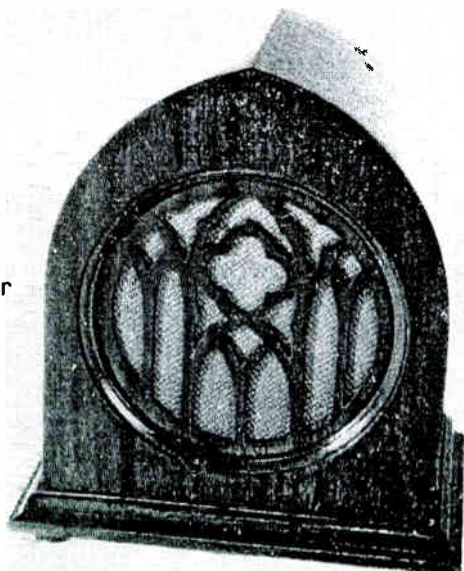
Series No. A

Ray Andrejasich

You readers may recall that Ray submitted a nice article in the last edition about the beautiful Eveready A-C, model 1 Receiver which he restored and put back in circulation. He stated that he had found a Peerless Reproducer and he hoped to restore it for usage with the Eveready. It turns out that there was little effort required and, as you can see, the results were rewarding.

This speaker system was marketed in 1926 as the "Peerless Reproducer", a trademark of the United Radio Corporation, in Rochester, New York. Imprinted on the paper cone are the words, "Peerless Reproducer Series No. A, 6867." The 6867 is apparently the serial number, as I know of one other identical speaker, with a higher number printed on the cone.

The mechanism is a balanced-armature type speaker. A large horse shoe magnet and coils move an armature. The coils are wired to what appears to be an impedance matching transformer



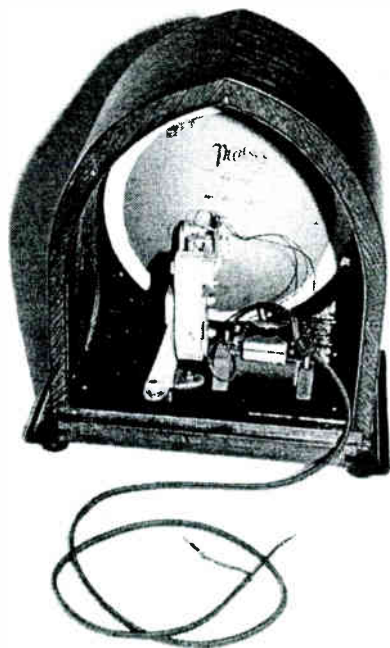
Peerless Speaker
Assembled

providing an input impedance of approximately 2000 ohms. The armature, through a mechanical linkage, drives a rod which is attached to the apex of the paper cone. The periphery of the paper cone is coupled to the metal speaker frame by a soft leather cone

(continued, next page)

("Peerless Reproducer, continued)

surround. The speaker diameter is approximately 8 inches. The speaker mechanism is mounted in a cathedral-shaped mahogany veneer cabinet, about 13 inches tall, which sits on four little circular wooden feet. The feet allow room for the speaker cord to exit from underneath the cabinet. The speaker cord is woven fabric with tinsel leads, terminated in phone tips. The cabinet has a grille on both the front and back. The removable back grille panel has a layer of dampening material on the inside about an inch thick. At the apex of the back panel is a decal, identifying the product as a "Peerless Reproducer." If anyone has additional information on the United Radio Corporation, I would like to hear from them. The only reference I found seemed to indicate that they manufactured only in the year 1926, ("1921-1932 Radio (cont'd)



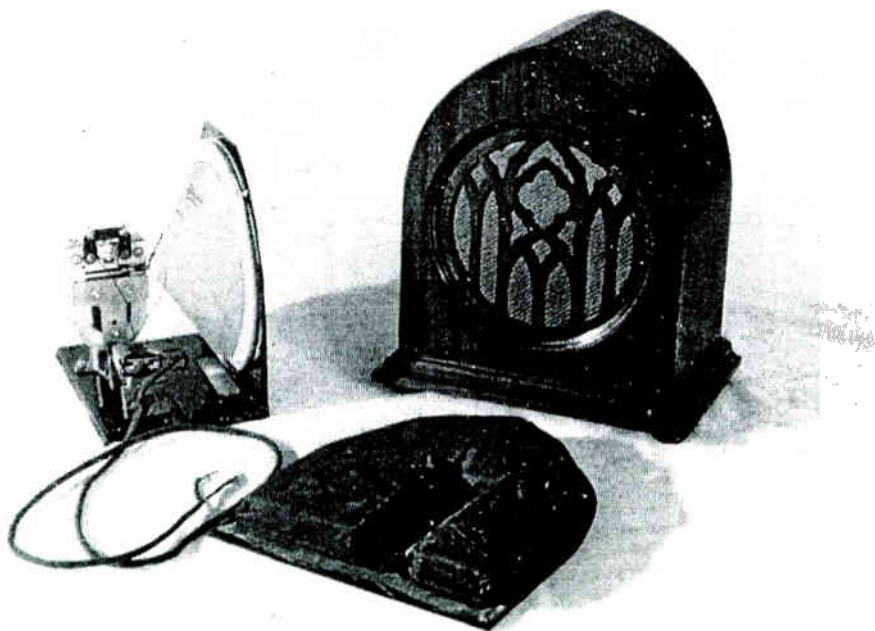
Rear view of Peerless Reproducer with back cover removed.

(continued next page)

Collectors Guide" by Morgan E. McMahon].

[Footnote: As a child, I lived in the suburbs of Chicago, and was into building crystal radios. With a long wire antenna on the roof of our bungalow, I was able to get very strong signals from local stations WMAQ, WBBM, WLS, and WCFL.. My uncle, who was in the radio repair business, gave me a 12 inch reproducing speaker,we called them magnetic speakers in those days. Using my crystal radio, I was able to replace my headphones with the magnetic speaker and got very good room volume. Unfortunately, the large horseshoe magnet got my attention and ended up hanging on a crane that I built with my Gilbert Erector set...shame on me!!)

Ray Andrejasich
11847 Pebblepointe Pass
Carmel, IN 46033



Reproducer removed from cabinet along with back cover.

My First 1920's Radio

By Edward Dupart

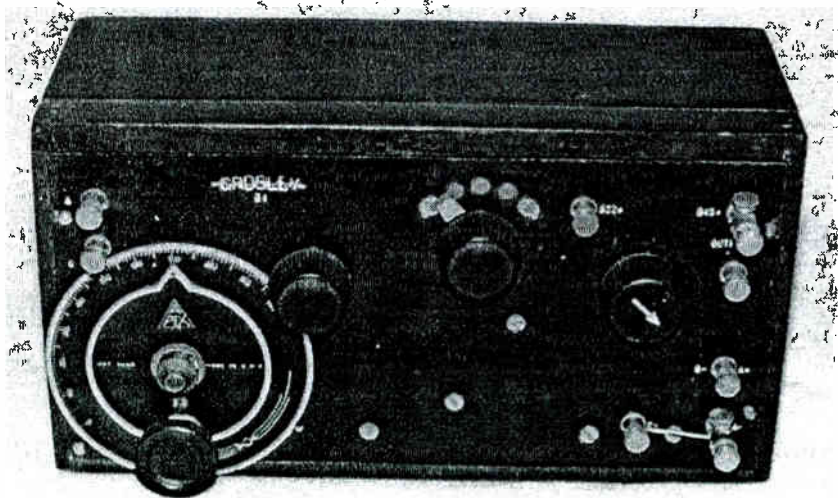
I have been fascinated with radio ever since I was five years old or possibly younger. In 1957 I built my first crystal radio when I was ten and my first transistor radio when I was eleven and was repairing radios and TV's when I was fourteen, so I was pretty involved with radio at an early age. In reading radio and electronic magazines, including the Rider Manuals at the Main library in downtown Detroit, I became aware of the 01A tube but didn't know much about it, except it was used in early radio and I didn't have any. I really wanted an early radio with 01A's. The family radios I inherited at an early age and still have, weren't early enough, a 1933 Zenith 288 and Philcos' PT25 and 49-500. So my search went on for the elusive early radio with 01A's.

There was an electronics store not too far from my house, Hershel Electronics on Grand River near Southfield road, where I would buy tubes and other assorted electronic parts. One day while visiting there I started talking about early radios and the salesman said he had one, a Crosley 51, that he would sell me for \$5.00. He said he had it for many years and used it when he was young. I said OK, but I would have to save up the money, which I did. It didn't take long to get the money, so one day in January of 1961 my dad agreed to take me down to his house just off of Livernois, which was several miles from my house, on a Sunday evening, but I had to find my way home. My dad and my stepmother had a party to go to and taking me there wasn't too far out of his way, but bringing me back home was impossible. I wasn't willing to wait for a better time and my dad wasn't too willing in taking me down there and bringing me back at a better time. So now was the time and besides, I could just about taste that radio.

That Sunday evening in January of 1961 I remember very clearly. January in Detroit is typically cold and snowy and this was no exception. The temperature was about 17° with a good snow covering, probably 6" or more. Buses ran on Sunday evenings but rather infrequently, which I was to find out about. My dad dropped me off and I bought my Crosley 51. Now, for what became a long walk. His house wasn't far from Livernois, so it didn't take long to walk down there and find a bus stop. But I stood there and stood there for what seemed an eternity. I then realized buses don't run very often on Sunday evenings and I had better start walking. After I walked a couple of miles a bus finally came along and I got on it, frozen, but I had my Crosley 51. When I got to Six Mile road I got off and stood at the bus stop for a long time and then I started walking again. Finally, the Six Mile bus came along after walking a few more miles and I got on it, frozen, again. Finally, I got off at Mansfield, the street I lived on, and walked the last half-mile home with my Crosley 51. My dad probably chuckled all the way to the party, "Saying: that crazy kid!"

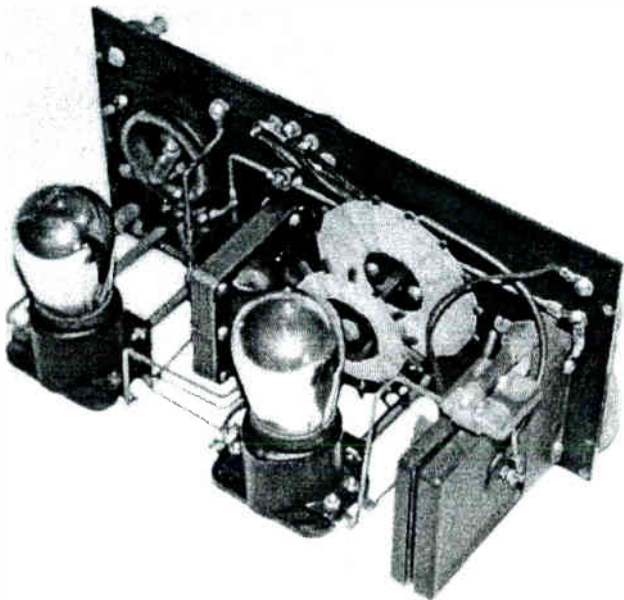
If there is a photo that accompanies this article, you will notice the Apex dial, which is not original. The original owner, wish I could remember his name, I think it was Robert, said the tuning was so tricky that he needed the Apex vernier tuning knob to help him tune in the radio. He was right, and at that time I was lucky to find the radio let alone trying to find an original knob. Now, I have all kinds of knobs and Crosleys, but I chose to leave it on. The radio was in good shape except for the top, so I undertook the task of refinishing the top. At that time I could not locate a stain or lacquer that was dark enough to match the original finish, so I had to make my own stain. It took about two weeks of experimenting and a lot of rubbing before I got the top to match the rest of the cabinet and 40 years later it still looks pretty good.

As a teenager, I used the radio quite a bit and it would drive a speaker on the local Detroit stations. Picking up distant stations was no problem and was just about as sensitive as a superhet, just tricky tuning it in. Later on in life I learned there were Crosley 50's, 52's and different versions of each, as well as various 51's. I have most of these models, with the original knobs. My first 51 is an early version with the bandswitch at the top of the panel. My memories of this radio are probably worth more than the radio. I've had it 40 years now, as of January 2001, and I think I will keep it another 40, God willing.

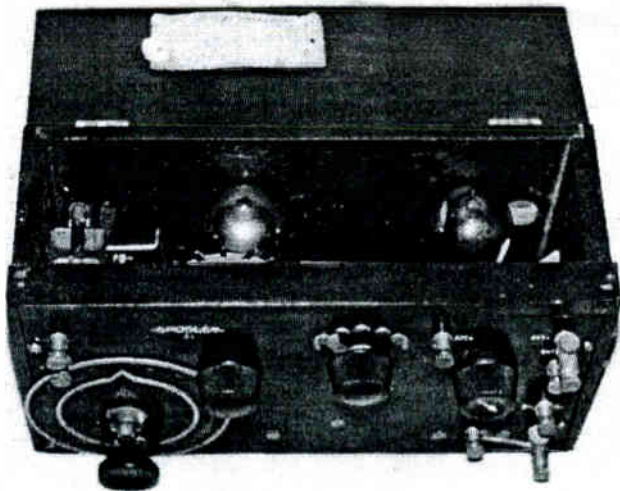


Early Crosley 51 1924

Crosley 51 continued:



Crosley 51, chassis



Crosley 51 Top View

WIRELESS PIONEER, AL GROSS, PASSED AWAY DEC. 28, 2000

Al Gross, late of Sun City, AZ, the man who brought the world such indispensable wireless communications concepts and devices as the "walkie-talkie", pager and cordless telephone passed away at the age of 82.

Gross obtained his Amateur Radio license in 1934 at the age of 16. His early interest in amateur Radio helped set his career choice while he was still a teenager.

Gross pioneered the development of devices that operated in the relatively unexplored VHF and UHF spectrum above 100 MHz. In 1938, while still in high school in Cleveland, he developed a hand-held transceiver he christened the "walkie-talkie". The device caught the attention of the Office of Strategic Services, the forerunner of the CIA. The OSS recruited Gross and this led to the invention of a two-way ground-to-air communications system used by the military behind enemy lines during WWII. The system allowed OSS agents to communicate with high-flying aircraft. It had a range of about 30 miles.

After WWII Gross started Gross Electronics, Inc. to design and build communications products, some under gov't contracts. He also launched Citizens Radio Corp. to design, develop and mfg personal wireless transceivers.

Cartoonist Chester Gould asked if he could use Gross' concept of a miniature two-way radio in his comic strip. The result was the Dick Tracy two-way wrist radio.

He invented a prototype pager in 1949. Some years later he demonstrated the device at a medical conference in Philadelphia. It was a failure. The doctors informed him they didn't want to be bothered during their golf games.

During the '50's and 60's Gross secured many patents for various portable and cordless devices. In 1958 Gross Electronics received FCC type approval for mobile and hand-held transceivers for use on the new Class D 27-Mhz Citizens Band. Gross once said "If you have a cordless or cellular

telephone or a "walkie-talkie" or beeper, you've got one of my patents."

Gross received numerous awards and honors during his distinguished career, including the 1992 F.B.Link Award from the Radio Club of America, the 1997 Marconi Memorial Gold Medal of Achievement from the Veteran Wireless Operators Ass'n, and the 1999 Edwin H. Armstrong Achievement Award from the IEEE. In 1998, he received the Eta Kappa Nu's Vladimir Karapetoff Eminent Members' Award in recognition of his pioneering contributions to the engineering of personal wireless communications. Eta Kappa Nu is an Electrical Engineering scholastic honor society.

Last year he was awarded the Lemelson-MIT lifetime achievement Award for invention and innovation and for playing a major role in wireless personal communications.

At one time during his early life he attended a three-week seminar for exceptional students at Princeton's Institute for Advanced Study. His instructor was no less than Albert Einstein. When Einstein looked at Gross' work he patted him on the back and said in his heavily accented English, "Das is goot!".....one of Gross' proudest moments.

As his IEEE biography put it: "It is clear that Mr. Gross was a true pioneer and helped lead the way to today's wireless personal communications revolution."

Thanks to W5YI Report. IEEE, ARRL and The Arizona Republic.

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Minutes of the Indiana Historical Radio Society Officers

February 3, 2001, Greenfield, Indiana

IHRS Officers, Herman Gross, George Freeman, Dr. Ed Taylor, Bob O'Friel, and Fred Prohl attended the meeting along with Greenfield host Glenn Fitch.

After a tour of the fairground building facilities, pavilion, and parking space, the attendees met to discuss details for the Joint IHRS – AWA Spring Festival at the Hancock County Fairgrounds, Greenfield, Indiana on June 8 and 9, 2001.

The following items were discussed:

Registration fees will be \$5.00 per family for both days. Set up will be \$10.00 per space, first come first serve, regardless of location (building, pavilion, or parking area). Pre-registration with the treasurer will be encouraged. A drawing of set up space will be publicized in the next Bulletin.

Pre-registered sellers will be allowed to confirm reservations and identify set up location Thursday evening after 6:00 PM at the fairgrounds. No set up Thursday, security will not be provided. Friday set up will open at 7:30 AM. We will need volunteers to coordinate registration table activity with set up locations. Registration table responsibility, Fred Prohl.

The contest will be Friday. Entries accepted at 10:00 AM. Judging, 11AM – 12 Noon. Recommend three judges in addition to contest chairman, George Freeman. Recommendation was also made to include a Peoples Choice vote on contest entries.

Glenn Fitch will check on possibilities for food service for Friday lunch. A suggestion was to have Pizza Hut provide a variety of pizzas with a salad. Glenn will be responsible for iced tubs of soda. Request will be made of members to contribute 25 cents for the soft drink.

There was considerable discussion on the Friday evening Banquet. Since it is an "Awards Banquet" the suggestion was to tie the Banquet closely with the contest, such as interview contest participants on their entry and have the entry available for the dinner. This would require holding the Banquet at the fairgrounds building with a caterer. An alternative discussed is to have the Banquet at a local restaurant in a more comfortable environment where members can select choice of food (buffet).

Seminars will start at 1:00 PM. Herman Gross will contact possible presenters. Topics suggested related to circuit analysis and repair, and cabinet refinishing. A silent auction is planned for Saturday. Glenn Fitch is responsible for set up and monitoring. Suggested schedule is to start the auction at 8:00 AM and conclude at 10:00 AM.

Also discussed was the formation of a 2002 nominating committee and the significance of the IHRS 30th anniversary. It was suggested coffee cups be made available to members in celebration of the 30th. Herman Gross will follow up on both items. Submitted by Fred Prohl, IHRS Secretary

Treasures Report

Winter meeting expense/receipts:

Room, coffee, donuts, and insurance	(\$789.55)
86 registrations, 33 table set up, coffee donation	\$608.00
Balance as of 3/23/01	\$6969.37

Submitted by Fred Prohl, IHRS Treasurer

The KIEL Table Radio

by Edward Dupart

Those of us interested in old radios have most likely heard of or seen or maybe even have a Kiel Table radio. If you haven't, they are a six legged table about 30" high, 2 feet wide and 3 feet long and at first glance you wouldn't even think they have a radio in them. I have seen tables that are virtually identical to them that do not contain a radio at auctions, museums and antique shops. I have a Kiel table radio with an Atwater Kent model 60 radio in it and it is in the living room. Of course, it is one of my favorite furniture pieces, but I always wanted to know about the history of the company that produced these beautiful tables and this led to an interesting discovery.

My brother Don moved south from the Witch Lake area of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan to Alaska, Wisconsin a few years ago and so when I visit him I tend to go through Wisconsin to get there from Indiana, where I presently live. One weekend while going up there to visit him, I noticed a small town on the map named Kiel. I thought to myself, "Could it be the same town that made the Kiel table radios?" It was a little out of the way but I figured nothing ventured, nothing gained. So off to Kiel, Wisconsin we went. Kiel is about 40 miles due south of Green Bay, Wisconsin. When we got to Kiel, I stopped at a business and inquired about a company that made tables for Atwater Kent back in the late 1920's and if they still existed, and to my surprise they said, "Sure, but the company is now called A. A. Laun Furniture company." They gave me directions to the A. A. Laun Furniture company and off we went. Upon arriving there, I told the secretary I was researching the tables made for the Atwater Kent Radio company and she promptly led me downstairs to their museum and lo and behold, there was a Kiel table with a radio in it. Too my surprise, it wasn't an Atwater Kent radio and if my memory serves me well, I believe it was an Erla radio made in Chicago. She told me that other radio companies also used their tables, which ones she didn't know. She gave me a complimentary issue of the Kiel Record, the local newspaper, that did a Centennial article on the A. A. Laun Furniture company. According to the paper, they also made small radio cabinets for the Erla Radio company in the late 1930's. I thanked her for her time and off to my brother's I went. Secretaries are great!

Now for a brief history of the A. A. Laun Furniture Company. It was originally formed by 35 men and one woman in 1892 to combat the youth of the community from leaving the Kiel area to find employment elsewhere. The first name was the Kiel Manufacturing Company but was changed to the Kiel Furniture Company in 1907 to reflect what they were really manufacturing. In 1910 the Kipp Company of Milwaukee was purchased and was operated until 1932 when it was closed. Only the plant in Kiel remained in operation. A. A. Laun, the younger brother of one of

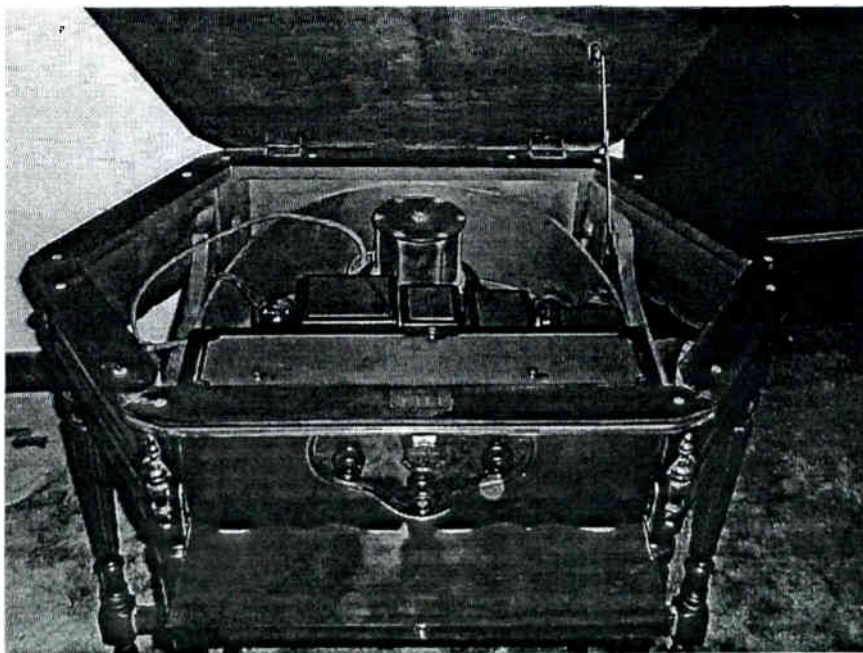
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(Kiel article, continued)

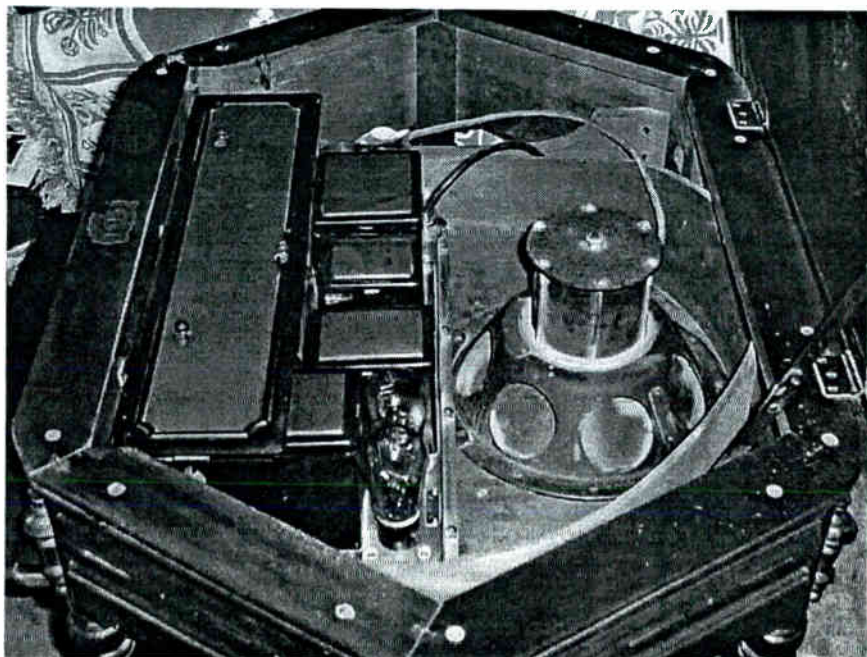
the original founders, J. B. Laun, formed the A. A. Laun Furniture Company and absorbed the Kiel Furniture Company in 1935 and retained the A. A. Laun Company name, which is the name that is still used to this day. As of 1992, Jonathon Laun is the president of the A. A. Laun Furniture Company, the third generation. They still make high quality tables and have even broken into the Japanese market. Living room tables are one of their specialties. The next time you are in a furniture store, there is a good chance you will see a brand new A. A. Laun table on display as well as seeing used ones in antique stores and elsewhere. My thanks to the people at the A. A. Laun Company who helped me with this article.

I would invite anyone who has worked for the A. A. Laun Furniture Company or the Kiel Furniture Company to write about their experiences and provide more information about the different radio companies that used their tables.

Resource: Kiel Tri-County Record, Kiel, Wisconsin July 9, 1992



Top/front view of Kiel table with AK 60 chassis.
(see next page.)



Close up view of Kiel Table with AK 60 chassis.

From the Mailbag

For immediate release from the Society for Preservation of Antique Radio Knowledge

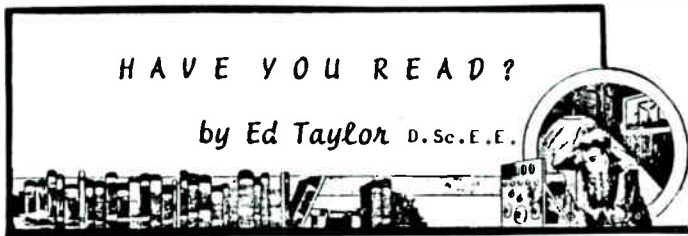
On November 28,2000, the two Dayton Ohio collectors clubs, ARCO and Spark Inc. voted to merge into one organization operating under the Spark Inc. name Confusion has arisen as a few ARCO members who were strongly opposed to the merger decided to operate a small club, and continue to use the ARCO name which was intended to be retired after the merger was approved. Spark Inc. is an organization of approximately 60 members and, to the best of our knowledge, Arco currently has less than a dozen members.

Any Questions regarding this subject should be directed to John Pansing at the P.O. Box or e-mail address listed below. All inquiries will be promptly answered.

John Pansing, President Spark Inc., 2001, Phone, (937) 299-0210;
e-mail Sparkinc@juno.com, P.O. Box 29211, Dayton Ohio, 45429

HAVE YOU READ ?

by Ed Taylor D. Sc. E. E.



The Complete Price Guide to Antique Radios: Pre-War Consoles

By: Mark V. Stein, 2000

Just remove the word "Price" from the above title and you have an excellent reference to console radios.

This reviewer in the heartland, cannot imagine where the value of console radios could be anywhere near the prices listed in the guide. Of course there are exotic consoles which are more than the everyday Philco, Airline, and Silvertone radios which many folks had in their homes in the 30's and 40's. Just check the auction results, from any large antique radio meet, to find the true value of consoles. An example is the last AWA Conference auction in Rochester, New York where four console radios were sold. An AK#55 sold for \$55.00, A De Forest #602 for \$60.00, A G.E. model M-106 went for \$40.00 and a Stewart-Warner # 103/301 was bought for \$70.00.

These are the REAL prices: What collectors will pay for console radios. This is why at almost any large midwest antique mall , you may see two or three console radios in the \$50.00 price range.

The book has several pages of explanation in the forward which should be a MUST read for radio dealers and collectors alike. A caveat, on the copyright page, "The market values indicated in this reference are based on a number of different sources. Actual prices will vary dependent on many variables. Neither the author nor the publisher assumes responsibility for losses which might result from the use of this book", says it all.

(see next page)

(Have You Read? Continued)

This book is a valuable tool, for any collector, in identifying Console radios. There are some 2543 photos and renderings of Radios with about 12 pictured on each page. Similar radio model numbers are listed with the photos. The cover is pure eye candy.

The book, in soft cover, is priced at \$29.95, (ISBN 0-9647953-3-7) and is available from: Radiomania Books, www.radiomania.com and other large booksellers.

Ed Taylor, IHRS Historian

Work In Progress

As this edition goes to press, work is underway to seek entertainment and other factors such as people to put on seminars etc. for the 30th anniversary Celebration that will take place this June. Other personnel will be sought to assist with the big event. If you want to support this show, please call Herman Gross at (765) 459-8308, e-mail = w9itt@mindspring.com or Glenn Fitch at (765) 565-6911

Please!!! We need your help to make this a success.

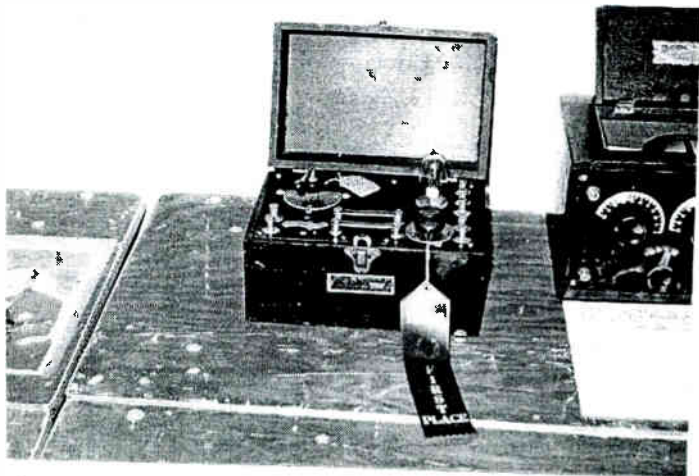
Articles Wanted!!!

As you read this "Bulletin", you had to be aware that there were many contributors this time. There are others of you who have the technical or mechanical knowledge and experience that would be of interest and support to our members who perhaps are just "coming aboard" in this great hobby. Why not compose an article along these lines relating your experiences or sharing your knowledge from either the electrical or cabinet restoration point of view. Send the article/s along with photos to me, Bob O'Friel, Editor "Bulletin", c/o the address shown on page 2. Take pride in your abilities and share them!!!!

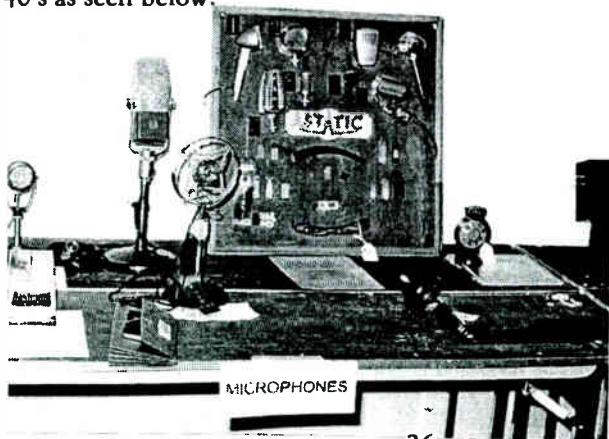
IHRS Winter Meet, Feb.24,2001

We had good weather and good attendance at the event that was held at the Holiday Inn Southeast. A lot more contest entries were entered and we will have a complete write up in the next edition of the "Bulletin" along with an article on the "Astatic Corporation". We ran out of room in this release. The photos were supplied by Fred Prohl and two are shown below. More will be shown in the next issue.

The one at the top shows the Splendid Jr. entered by Ed Dupart who won a first place ribbon. He has 2 articles in this issue.



The microphone contest attracted some interesting entries including one of the RCA 44 series. Bob O'Friel received a Blue Ribbon for his entry of an Astatic microphone display board along with documentation from the late 1940's as seen below.



RADIOADS

These ads are free to IHRS members. Please limit them to 100 words. Unless we are advised otherwise, we will run ads for two issues. The exception would be where services, etc. are being listed. Please send your ads to the editor at the address shown on page 2.

For Sale: Book: "From Crystal to Color", the History of Radio/TV Station WFBM, Indianapolis (1924 to 1964) by George S. Madden & Burk Friedersdorf. First edition 1964 published by WFBM. Has 190 pages and is in excellent condition complete with dust jacket. Price, \$25.00

Novelty radio, solid maple wall telephone, excellent condition--\$30.00

Harry Blesy N9CQX ,
9S740 Clarendon Hills Rd.
Hinsdale, IL 60521

Phone/FAX (630) 789-1793

For Sale: Near mint copy of the AWA Review for 1998--\$20.00 postpaid. James Fred, 5355 S. 275 W., Cutler, IN 46920, phone (765) 268-2214.

FOR SALE: Reproduction Philco cathedral cabinet parts and reproduction cabinets for model 20, 21, 70, 90. Grandfather clock finials: Philco 570, GE H-91, Crosley 124. Philco Colonial Clock top trim and finials. Rider's Radio Index, 1 through 23--\$25.00.

Books, SASE for list. All plus shipping. Philco cabinets, front panels, see page in last issue, other parts.....inquire.

Service Equipment: Elenco digital LCR meter: LCR-1801: Elenco signal generator/counter SG9500: Heathkit signal tracer IT-12: BK Precision digital multimeter 2831: Heathkit regulated HV power supply IP-17: Precision tube tester 612: Weston analyzer 774-4:

(Radioads, continued)

Supreme analyzer 333. Call or e-mail for details: Dick Oliver c/o Antique Radio Service, 1725 Juniper Place, #310, Goshen IN 46526. New phone # (219) 537-3747, e-mail dolivears@aol.com (see page 22, Winter Bulletin, vol.29 #4)

FOR SALE: McMurdo-Silver Masterpiece V in a beautiful inlaid cabinet. Don Patterson and I both think that the cabinet is an Ozarka cabinet that was professionally redone for this set. This is in beautiful condition. Price.....\$2500.00. (It's for sale because I don't need 3 of these).

Coke Machine, Cavalier Model CSS173. Refrigeration works and it's all there including the key. Holds a lot of 12oz. (or smaller bottles). \$250.00

The McMurdo-Silver and the coke machine may be seen by appointment, but bring money. Mike Clark, 6484 East 350 North, Franklin, IN 46131.

Tel. # (317) 738-4649, e-mail ripmaclark@aol.com

FOR SALE: Photocopies: Hallicrafters S-22, Zenith 1000-1, Radiola III, 18, 60, 100A, 103, Majestic 52, and other radio, tube, and Test Equipment manuals. Also some Novelty radios. LSASE for list. N.I.B. Western Electric 421A-\$55 postpaid.

WANTED: Speaker/output xfmr. assembly for RCA 5T1.

Herman Gross, 1705 Gordon Dr. Kokomo, IN 46902.

(765) 459-8308, e-mail = w9itt@mindspring.com

FOR SALE: Novelty radios, N.I.B.: Pekinese Dog - \$20.00, Computer Mouse FM - \$15.00. Shipping extra. Steve Whited, 3637 W. 71st Street, Indianapolis, IN, 46268. (317) 298-9967.

WANTED: Philco 512 w/212 speaker or 514/214 or 513/213 radio. Bob O'Friel, 7631 Cape Cod Circle, Indianapolis, IN 46250-1844
Phone, (513) 849.4028

Send all ads and articles to: Bob O'Friel, Editor, IHRS Journal, address, page2