

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

ANTIQUE RADIO CLASSIFIED

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Photos should be at an 85-line screen; otherwise, add \$16.00 per photo for screening. Do not cut or trim photos or glue photos to artwork; submit separately.

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The 3-month rates represent about an 11% discount, the 6month rates 23%, the 12-month rates 30%. Placement requests: add 15% but call first. Clubs: write for discount policy. One Time

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1/2 H		7 3/4 x 2 1/4	146.00	389.00	675.00*	1175.00**	37.00†
1/2 V	12 7/16 x 3 9/16		74.00	197.00	342.00	595.00	19.00†
1/4	51/4 x 39/16	3 5/16 x 2 1/4			177.00	305.00	9.00†
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siness Card (2nd....) 2 x 3 3/4 11/4 x 2 3/8 not avail. 68.00 118.00 205.00 7.0 * Full & ½ page, 6-mos.: ½ due with order; ½ due in 3 mos. ** Full & ½ page, 12-mos.: ½ due with order; ½ due at 3, 6 & 9 mos. † For 6 and 12 month ads, no ad make-up charge if no change is made to ad for entire run.



EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Getting out into the wider radio world is always an exhilarating experience. In the past month, your editor traveled to the West Coast where he attended for the first time the California Historical Radio Society swap meet and auction in Los Altos. The return trip included Radiofest in Elgin, Illinois — a good place to get in touch with what goes on in "Radio Middle America."

As always, the exchange of ideas and general radio talk was stimulating. But, what was even more so was meeting many of you subscribers and contributing writers face-to-face. Out of that comes a real sense of the radio community — an aspect of our avocation that can't be replaced by the internet.

Still, the major topic of conversation along the way was when — not if — A.R.C. ads will go online. The inevitability of that move with the times is clear. We are working out the details of how to implement the process in a way that is as fair as possible to all, so stay tuned, as A.R.C. takes antique radio into the 21st century.

Meanwhile, our lead article does what we collectors like most — thrusts us back in time to earlier radio days. New York's Cortlandt St., the center of the well-known "Radio Row," is the subject of Francis Yonker's photo essay, resulting from his unearthing of negatives stashed away in his archives since the 1950s. The whole process of developing this article has been great fun for the A.R.C. staff — from getting the best possible prints from the negatives to laying out the information in a comprehensive way. We hope you enjoy this journey through radioland in the mid-20th century.

Bill Horn's search for a chassis for his Pooley cabinet has evolved into an even bigger search for an answer to the question, "Did the well-known cabinetmaker ever make its own radios?" Bill looks for more corroboration of his theory that Pooley bought radios from other manufacturers and marketed them under its own name. Let's hear from more Pooley collectors.

In a short article, Richard Arnold describes the Crosley Model 181, which captured his interest because of its southwest design. Richard wonders if the radio had only regional appeal.

Andy Anderson's AC/DC radio repair article encourages the novice to tackle the non-working sets in his collection. Andy supplies many basic tips, and obviously conveys his own sense of satisfaction in the work.

To continue our 15th year celebration, we include another article from A.R.C.'s first year. The November 1984 issue contained current staff member Dave Crocker's first of almost two dozen articles on Crosley. Dave remains our resident expert on Crosley and many other radio collector topics.

We're beginning to think that Ray Chase's auction reports should have a new banner — something like, "Chase Chases Auctions!" Ray's spring trip to Texas for the Lee Auction reported last month, and the Baughman Auction reported this month, was a big plus for all of us interested in auction action. This was a professionally handled, quality auction where radios alone totalled \$44,000. Several items sold for over \$1,000, including a Mid-Ray radio selling at \$2,500.

Paul Boyer has contributed a review of an unusual CD released by Diamond Cut Productions, the New Jersey company that processes Edison lateral disks and attempts to restore their original sound quality. According to Paul, the company has succeeded with this CD of Vaughn DeLeath, a 1920s singer. De-Leath was much involved with early radio and is an appropriate choice for listening as you work on your 1920s-1930s sets. Other Diamond Cut Productions recordings were reviewed in the March 1997 A.R.C.

Among the interesting *Photo Review* sets is Erwin Macho's field telegraph built in Vienna in 1910. And Phil Brunais' RCA Model 45YZ demonstrates what can happen to a Plaskon cabinet when left in the sun — a warning to all flea market vendors.

Radio Miscellanea contains feedback on the Alan Douglas critique of the latest Cones and Bryant book on Zenith, as well as Dave Crocker's Baldwin horn speaker article. A variety of comments on the internet issue are also included.

A.R.C.'s 15th Year "Specials": In anticipation of our 15th anniversary in June 1999, A.R.C. will offer "specials" from time-to-time. This month the periodicals rate has been reduced to \$39.49, as announced on the coupon in the middle of this issue. Be sure to watch for future "specials." If you recently missed this special, feel free to request a credit on your next order.

Coming Radio Events: Fall, of course, means multiple events for collectors — nearly four dozen are listed for September. As we say every year, if you can make it to only one event, the 5-day Antique Wireless Association Conference in Rochester, New York, is the one not to miss. Collectors often plan vacation time and budgets around this event, which features the requisite flea market, seminars, banquets, museum visits, equipment contest, and four auctions. A.R.C. will be there both at the flea market and the indoor book fair, so please drop by to say, "Hi" to Bobby, Sue, and your editor.

Happy Collecting!

John V. Terrey, Editor

ON THE COVER

Rand Radio Corp., a store once at No. 84 Cortlandt St., is representative of over forty such establishments that gave this New York City area its nickname — "Radio Row." The photograph is one of many contributed by Francis Yonker with his article on this well-known radio "shoppers' paradise" in pre-World Trade Center days. Added nostalgia is provided by the 1942 Oldsmobile Sedanette — doubleparked no less!

WITH THE COLLECTORS

Radio Row — Cortlandt Street 1930-1970 BY FRANCIS H. YONKER

You never know when a bit of radio history will resurface. Eight years ago, A.R.C. published an article by Ed Schneck (July 1990) in which he shared the Cortlandt St. memories of his 91-yearold father H.L. Schenck. At the time, Ed asked Francis Yonker for the photos he had heard were in the Yonker collection. However, Francis could not locate them. Meanwhile, another short piece on the famous "Radio Row" by Alton DuBois appeared in April 1991. But, miraculously the elusive Yonker photos suddenly surfaced, and we're grateful to Francis for telling us about them and sharing this "Photo Essay" with our readers.

A second part of this "Saga of the Cortlandt St. Negatives" has to do with their printing. Tim Morse, the photographer who handles our more challenging photography problems, called this one a "real adventure." Although he has worked with negatives as old as the turn of the century, Tim had never encountered any like these, which had been rolled in a cannister, probably since 1950. They were like a coiled spring, almost impossible to lay down, until he subjected them to the weight of a 10pound dictionary for 10 days. Even then they coiled, but not as tightly, and were so strong that they lifted the negative carrier.

As for the quality of the photos, Tim says they are

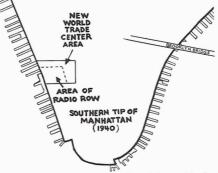


Figure 1. Location of Radio Row in lower Manhattan, now the World Trade Center site. (See Figure 10 for a detailed street map.)

very sharp, but the negatives are what photographers call "thin" — not a lot of detail. They were either underexposed or underdeveloped, and had to be printed on high contrast paper. There are a lot of scratches, causing the white lines on the prints.

But, this "adventure in printing" seems to have



Figure 2. Greenwich Street, showing Lou Resnick selling radio and television along with sports equipment at No. 166 through to Oscar's at No. 176. In between is Stewart's at No. 169, Maxim at No. 170, Radio Row at No. 172 and Nat Unget at No.174 1/2. A quick crew cut at the Veteran's Barber Shop, No.174, was available to radio store shoppers.

paid off for Tim in unexpected ways. For example, when he recently took his children to the World Trade Center in New York, once the site of "Radio Row," shown in Figure 1, he asked them to guess where they were. They actually found his explanation about Cortlandt St. impressive. In fact, so did he — his "battle with the film" had been fun and well worth the effort. (Editor)

Remember when the World Trade Center (Twin Towers) wasn't there? A 5¢ subway ride would take me downtown near the tip of Manhattan to Cortlandt St. [That subway stop is still called "Cortlandt St."] In the early 1930s, Cortlandt St. was known as "Competition Row" and later as "Radio Row." In the early 1940s, I was setting up a radio/sound repair shop, and I needed a set of Supreme instruments, such as a tube tester, an RF and audio oscillator, a 3" oscilloscope, and an RCA Rider Channalyst. For almost anything I needed I could go to 10 or 20 stores on Radio Row looking for the best prices.

At that time, car radios had the antennas mounted under the running boards. Antenna kits for insulating a car's bumper for an antenna were common. Frequency modulation was new in broadcasting, and servicemen had to know how to tune the discriminator transformers. High impedance DC vacuum tube voltmeters were just being introduced, so I had to add that to my list.

By the way, FM was on the 42 to 50 megacycles band then. Black and white television, just in its infancy with a 3" picture CRT, was broadcast from the Empire State Building only two or three hours a day. Television receivers were being sold on Radio Row, as were all the tubes and parts for any receiver. Radio Row was a shopper's para-*(Continued on following page)*



Figure 3. Dey Street, with Merit Radio at No. 63 and Leotone Radio at No. 65.

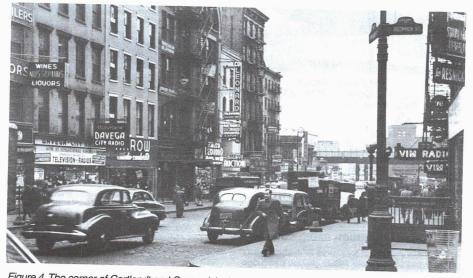


Figure 4. The corner of Cortlandt and Greenwich showing Davega at No. 63, Arrow (only "row" shows on sign) at No. 65, Leonard Radio at No. 69, and Digby Auction at No. 71. In the distance is the elevated highway along the Hudson River. The odd side of the street continues on the following page.



Figure 5. Continuing along Cortlandt, we find Bernie Briggs at No. 77; the area of the photo with the Cortlandt Restaurant next door at No. 79 is damaged; Magna and Center Electronics Co. Auto Radios are at Nos. 79 ½ and 81.



Figure 6. Starting at Center Electronics at No. 81, we move on to Terminal Radio at No. 85, having stopped at their coffee shop at No. 83. Beyond Ben & Joe's Luncheonette and out of the photo is Bonafide Radio at No. 89 ¹/₂.

(Radio Row, continued)

dise for the hams who built their own transmitters. Parts and equipment galore!

World War II brought a halt to television, and ham radio bands were closed down. Times were tough in the marketplace until 1945 when war surplus equipment started to arrive. Many new stores opened up in this area selling military gear at junk prices.

A WALK THROUGH RADIO ROW

The following photos, Figures 2–9, show many radio stores in the early 1950s, as you can judge by the vintage of the cars — the latest model in the photos is a 1954 Ford. The stores can be identified and located by the front door or sign and street number, and by referring to that position on the street map shown in Figure 10. Cortlandt St. is not alone in this area because Greenwich, Dey, and Liberty Streets also joined in the common theme of competitive radio.

As you walked beyond the immediate Radio Row area north on Greenwich where it joined West Broadway, Harrison Radio was located at #10 West Broadway — a ham's paradise for equipment. Several subway stops north would place you on Canal St., another long street of surplus supplies covering radio, electrical, plastics, and everything else. TAB ("That's a Buy"), a surplus store, was at 512 Broadway and 6 Church St. Grand Central Radio was at 45th St. near Madison, and there were several other stores at 14th St. around Union Sq., Packard, etc.

At this time, I was employed by RCA Radioma-



Figure 7. Working our way along the even side of Cortlandt, starting across the street from Ben and Joe's Luncheonette, is Rand Radio at No. 84. Arrow is next door at No. 82 and Mike Kranz and Short Wave Radio are at No. 80 and No. 78 (both are behind the truck; see photo below for a better view.) On the corner of Washington St. is North Radio at No. 76.



Figure 8. A clearer view of Mike Kranz and Short Wave Radio at No. 80 and No. 78. Note the shiny, newlooking 1951 Chevrolet.

rine in the Holland Plaza Building at 75 Varick St., located between the Holland Tunnel Exit and entrances at Canal St. I was installing radio equipment on the USS United States docked on the Hudson River.

When the World Trade Center came along around 1970, its property lines started at Vesey St. on the north to Liberty St. on the south, Trinity Place on the east and the elevated highway on the west. This project obliterated Radio Row, as well as the most progressive businesses scattered all over Manhattan as far north as 45th St.

Anyone having more photos, negatives, information or corrections is welcome to contact me and A.R.C. (Francis H. Yonker, 1229 Inverary Pl., State College, PA 16801)

Francis Yonker's radio history goes back to 1929 when he had a home-brew regenerative radio on his bike and a RCA Radiola III on his sled. As a Naval officer in World War II, he attended courses at Bowdoin College and M.I.T. specializing in radar and countermeasures. He has retired twice: once from Penn State, his alma mater, after 22 years of teaching and having built TV Channel 3 Education, Station WPSX; and again in 1991 as a full professor after 20 more years in radio and TV.

(Continued on following Page)



Figure 9. Looking down Cortlandt Street from about opposite Leonard Radio is Vim at No. 70, and Elliot & Alessi at No. 72. You can just make out "Nor" on the North Radio sign, and behind it is Arrow at No. 82.

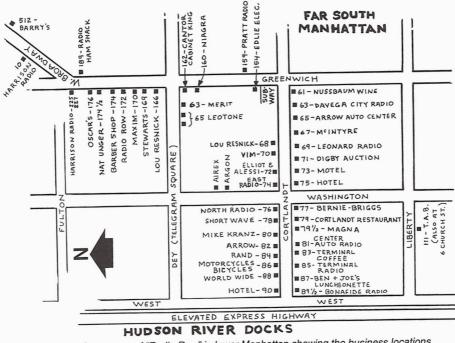


Figure 10. Street map of "Radio Row" in lower Manhattan showing the business locations.

WITH THE COLLECTORS

The Pooley Company — Cabinets and Radios?

BY WILLIAM F. HORN

When William Horn found the Pooley name on the escutcheon of his empty Polley slant-front desk cabinet, he had every reason to ask: "Did the Pooley Company, well known for its fine cabinets, ever make its own radios?" Through his contacts with other Pooley collectors, Horn postulates that Pooley did market radios under its own name, but that in certain models the chassis were manufactured by the Colin B. Kennedy Company and the speakers by Jensen. Horn encourages other Pooley owners to shed further light on this intriguing subject. (Editor)

This article is part of a continued effort to identify/locate a chassis/speaker for my Pooley slant-front desk cabinet, shown in Figure 1 with the desk front closed and in Figure 2 with it open. My search has been long, as my "Wanted" ads in A.R.C. go back to December 1991. This search has opened up a broader question: Did the Pooley Company ever assemble and sell radios under its own name?

It is widely assumed that Pooley was basically a cabinetmaker, but never manufactured radios or chassis. However, I have puzzled over the Pooley name on the dial escutcheon, as have at least two owners who have Pooley slant-front



Figure 2. Pooley slant-front cabinet opened for access to the writing surface and the radio controls.



Figure 1. Pooley slant-front desk cabinet with closed front. (Furniture style unknown.)



Figure 3. Dick Bury's Pooley slant-front desk cabinet closed — his "Philadelphia-style furniture." (Continued on following page)

(The Pooley Company, continued) desk cabinets complete with the radio. Although the chassis is labeled "Model 21," there is no clear clue as to its maker. It does display an identification plate with a model number, serial number, voltage, and power requirements, as well as RCA patent/ license information.

From this sketchy data one might presume that since Pooley did not make this set, maybe RCA did. But, there is no record of an RCA Model 21. The speaker gives some clue about the Pooley effort to increase sales

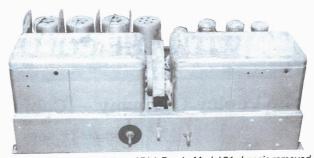


Figure 6. Front control view of Dick Bury's Model 21 chassis removed from the Pooley cabinet.

profits. The speakers are marked, "Jensen Concert Model 8/D8 designed by Peter J. Jensen and manufactured for the Pooley Company, Philadelphia, Pa., licensed under Lektaphone Pats."

Coincidentally, in my search, I bought a Kennedy Model 26 radio. To my surprise, I found a most favorable comparison between its chassis/ID plate/ speaker and the Pooley Model 21 chassis/ID plate/ speaker. I concluded that the Model 21 chassis



Figure 4. Dick Bury's cabinet opened for access to its writing surface and to the radio controls behind the center doors.



Figure 5. Rear view of Dick Bury's Model 21 chassis installed in the Pooley cabinet.

was probably of Kennedy manufacture.

Contact with Dick Bury of Gurnee, Illinois, through his "For Sale" ad in the June 1997 A.R.C., page 60, uncovered more confirming evidence. Advertised as an "RCA Model 21" radio in a Pooley desk cabinet, his set appears to be a Kennedy Model 21 radio. This radio is shown in Figure 3 with the desk top closed and in Figure 4 with it open. The radio controls are behind the center doors. Figure 5 shows a rear view of his Model 21 chassis for his "Philadelphia Style" cabinet. Figure 6 shows a front view of the chassis.

Dick had located data on Kennedy Models 30 and 32 in Rider's Volume I and found that his Model 21 chassis and the Kennedy Models 30/32 were similar.

Figure 7 shows a close-up of the data plate on Dick's Model 21 chassis. A comparison of the identification plates on that chassis with those on my Kennedy Model 26 revealed a set of serial numbers in close association. The two known Model 21 radios in the Pooley cabinets bear serial numbers 38653 and 38837, while the Kennedy Model 26 number is 34449. Perhaps other Kennedy owners can share more serial number correlations.

Based upon this information we believe that the Pooley Company did market radios under its own name. Its chassis were probably manufactured by Kennedy based on the Models 30 and 32, while its speakers were by Jensen.

As noted, my Pooley slant-front desk cabinet is missing the Model 21 mystery chassis. I have had contact with another owner of this type desk



Figure 7. A close-up view of the data plate with RCA patent/license data, along with model number, serial number, watts, volts, and cycles, on Dick Bury's Model 21 chassis.



Figure 8. A Silver-Marshall slant-front desk cabinet which closely matches the Pooley cabinet. The radio controls seem to be the only difference. Which cabinet came first?

cabinet. His is complete with the Model 21 chassis and Jensen speaker. Like mine, it features one pull-out drawer with inkwell and pen tray, as well as space for paper, envelopes, etc.

Dr. R.W. Muchow of Elgin, Illinois, has reported that he has in his collection a Pooley drop-leaf table cabinet radio. As a point of added interest, he also has a Silver-Marshall slant-front desk cabinet radio. By his description, it may be a Pooley-made cabinet. Coincidentally, I obtained a photo of a Silver-Marshall slant-front desk cabinet radio Model 37 or 737 from another owner (See Figure 8). Note the similarities with my Pooley cabinet.

Perhaps other owners can tell us more about their Pooley radios.

(W.F. Horn, 13110 Marsh Rd., Bealeton, VA 22712)

Bill Horn retired in 1989 as an electronic engineer/technician from the U.S. Civil Service at USNATC in Patuxent River, Maryland, and US-ASA in Warrenton, Virginia. His interest in radio goes back to the 1940s, and his collection includes the Pooley Desk radio that is the subject of this article, as well as a Radiola RS, early battery sets, horns, cones, and headsets.

Crosley Model 181

BY RICHARD ARNOLD

I came across this rather unusual looking radio in an antique store in southern Oklahoma. This Crosley 181, as shown in Figure 1, has a Santa Fe, New Mexico, or an Arizona theme. The cabinet is painted a bright yellow with dark green trim. The cutouts are designed to look like a Phoenix, a version of a Thunderbird, or some sort of Indian desert god.

The two escutcheons are also designed to have a bird look, as they are winged and slightly feathered and have a curved bottom. The set has four knobs: the top two are for volume and tuning the broadcast band; the lower two are the on/off switch and a 2-point tone control.

This tombstone measures 13 ³/₄" square and 8 inches deep. Judging from the tube complement, which includes Types 2A5 and 2A7, it must have been made for the 1933 market. It seems strange that, in the middle of the Depression, Crosley or any other company would make a radio that appears to target a specific area of the United States — the West Coast and the desert states. I wonder how a radio like this would have sold in New York City.

A 6-tube Superheterodyne, the Model 181 uses two Type 58s — one for IF and one for AF amplification; a 2A7 oscillator; a 56 detector; a 2A5 output; and an 80 rectifier. I cannot find any mention of this radio in the books that I have, although I was able to find a schematic. [A Crosley Model 181 with a different speaker grille appears on page 59 of Mark Stein's *Machine Age to Jet Age, Volume 1.*]

I imagine that this radio is somewhat rare, as this is the only one I have ever seen in the twelve



Figure 1. A Crosley Model 181, ca. 1933.

years that I have been collecting. Any information to increase our knowledge will be welcome.

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

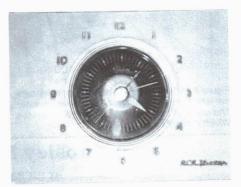
Richard Arnold has been collecting radios, primarily cathedrals and 1920s battery sets, since 1985. His collection ranges from crystal sets to a 1926 American Bosch in a Pooley cabinet. His prize is the 1932 Jackson Bell Peter pan featured in the June 1991 A.R.C.



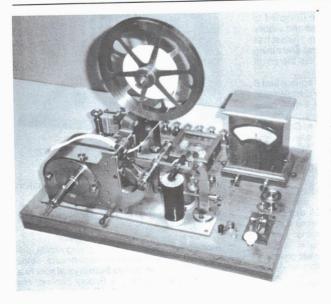
This column presents in pictorial form many of the more unusual radios, speakers, tubes, advertising, and other old radio-related items from our readers' collections. The photos are meant to help increase awareness of what's available in the radio collecting hobby. Send in any size photos from your collection.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



RCA MODEL 45YZ – The condition of this radio, made in 1940, will serve as a warning to radio collectors. Plaskon cabinets left in the sun, even for a couple of hours, can change color very quickly. Note the change in color at the top left of the cabinet where the price tag was removed. To avoid discoloring such radios at an outdoor swap meet, keep them in the shade! (Phil Brunais – Bear Lake, MI)

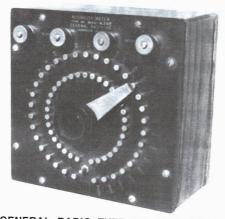


RCA AM CLOCK/RADIO, MODEL UN-KNOWN – This clock/radio has engraved on the top "E.P.D. WINNER 1952, E.R. Doyle." If anybody knows what this means, please contact A.R.C. (*Tom Mooningham, Maugansville* – *MD*)

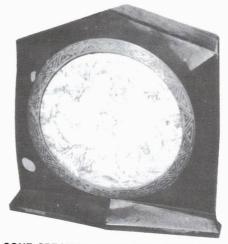


KAPSCH & SÖHNE FIELD TELEGRAPH — This field telegraph, built in Vienna, Austria, in 1910, is in like-new condition. All components are mounted on a massive wooden breadboard. (Erwin Macho – Vienna, Austria)

PHOTO REVIEW



GENERAL RADIO TYPE 164 AUDIBILITY METER – This early 1920s instrument measures the signal strength of a set using headphones. The two binding posts at the left are for the phones, while the two on the right are for the detector. It has 33 outer taps numbered from 1–2000. The 33 inner taps are corresponding. The wiper arm makes contact with both sets of taps. It was manufactured by the General Radio Company when they were located in Cambridge, Mass. (Dave Crocker – Mashpee, MA)



CONE SPEAKER, MAKE AND MODEL UN-KNOWN – This electrodynamic speaker is strikingly similar to the RCA loudspeaker Model 100B used with the Radiola 33. However, the medieval motif in the woven grille cloth is much different from the sun-ray design in the 100B grille. Is this medieval grille cloth original or a replacement? Can anyone shed more light on the make and model of this speaker, as well as on its grille cloth? (*Don Maurer – Lebanon, PA*)



HOME BREW – When times were tough and money was short, this old timer used about every resource he had, even the sign from the shop, to bring in and amplify those radio waves from the past. (*Cliff Crater – Seaford*, *DE*)

FIRESTONE AIR CHIEF MODEL S-7426-8 – This handsome AC set, found in near-mint condition, uses 6 tubes. I believe that the cabinet was designed by Ingraham. Can anyone out there confirm this idea? (*Mike Simos – Merrick, NY*)



Will Your Radios Play? or How to Fix Your AC/DC Radios

BY O. T. ANDY ANDERSON

Many collectors are hesitant to take on the repair of malfunctioning AC/DC radios. Not only did Andy Anderson take it on, but he has put together a basic list of troubleshooting tips to encourage the novice. This article is not meant to replace the more complete books on this subject or the earlier, more extensive A.R.C. series and articles (see box). So, beginners, proceed cautiously. This article is not the whole story, but it will surely get you hooked! (Editor)

(Warning: One side of the AC line is usually connected to the chassis in an AC/DC radio. Use an isolation transformer to prevent shock.)

So you are a "radioman." You collect antique radios. You can repair the wood cabinets and replace speaker grille cloths. You can polish the plastic cabinets and make them shine. They look good on the shelf. But invariably when visitors come, someone will ask, "Will your radios play?"

The AC/DC radio is the place to get started repairing radios. You don't need extensive test equipment or spare parts. It's easy to learn. There are not many things that can go wrong, as AC/DC circuits are more or less alike. So, you can fix your radio if you can read a schematic, know how to use a multitester, and know the difference between a resistor and a capacitor.

As a beginner, you probably won't fix all of your sets. With the instructions in this article, if you have ten radios, you might get six or seven fixed. With perseverance and some good luck you might get eight going. Even experienced technicians

sometimes find some that are just hard to fix. You might have to set one or two aside and try again at another time.

So what is usually wrong with six or eight out of ten radios that you might get working? Here's the answer. There are usually only two things that will keep an AC/DC radio from playing - tubes and capacitors. With good tubes and good capacitors you will have most of your radios working. Sure, there are other things that happen occasionally, but we'll talk about some of them later.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED

To fix your AC/DC radios you will need tubes and other parts. You can buy supplies from the dealers who advertise in A.R.C. Or you may have some junk radios with broken cabinets that are not worth saving. These old sets are a good place to find tubes, speakers, and line cords.

Capacitors. Do not use old capacitors. Order some new filter capacitors, some 33 mF and 47 mF rated at 160 vdc. They will do for whatever size your radio has. It's better to use two single capacitors rather than a dual one. Also order some paper capacitors. Suggested values 0.0047, 0.01, 0.022 and 0.047 mF rated at 630 volt are commonly used.

Service Data. You will also need some diagrams. Maybe if you are lucky your set has a schematic on the inside or on the bottom. Most AC/DC radios are more or less alike, but it always seems as if the one you are working on will be different. Try to find a Rider manual - Volumes

XVIII to XX - at a radio flea market. These volumes contain schematics for typical AC/DC sets. Those who sell schematics advertise in A.R.C. And it would be useful if you had a tube manual.

Multitester. You may prefer an analog meter rather than a digital type. The Simpson 260 is the standard of the industry, but Radio Shack has testers around \$25 that would probably suit your needs.

Tools. A 30- or 40-watt soldering iron will usually suffice, but it would be a great help if you can find an old 100-watt iron at some old-time radio and TV shop. A kit of those short



Andy Anderson at his workbench repairing a Zenith K518.

jumper leads with alligator clips from Radio Shack is helpful for making temporary connections. A tube tester and other equipment are usually not needed for AC/DC radios.

Workplace and Safety. Many AC/DC radios have one side of the AC line connected to the chassis. So the chassis is "hot." Touching the chassis and a grounded metal bench could be fatal. So a sturdy wooden workbench is much more desirable than a metal one. Most radio and TV technicians place a carpet remnant on the workbench and have another piece they can stand on.

CHECKING THE TUBE FILAMENTS

The first thing you want to do is to find out the condition of the tubes. Plug your radio in. If one tube lights up, they will all light up, and you probably have 5 good tubes.

Hold the AC plug in your hand when you turn the radio on for the first time or when you replace the 35Z5GT. If the pilot light or the 35Z5GT starts to get too bright, pull the plug, quickly! There is a short somewhere, probably in the filter capacitors or in capacitor C11. Hopefully you haven't burned out the tube.

What if your radio doesn't light up? Look at the schematic. See how the tube filaments in an AC/ DC set are connected in series. They are like an old Christmas tree light string — if one bulb burns out, the others will not light. Notice in the circuit there are 5 tube filaments, the on/off switch, and the A/C plug and cord. The problem has to be one of these.

Most of you probably know this, but maybe some people don't. Look at the 5-tube radio in the schematic. See those first numbers of the tube type like 12, 35, and 50? These are the filament voltages for each tube. Add them up and the sum is 121, the approximate A/C line voltage to your house. That's why high voltage tubes like the 35Z5GT and 50L6GT were invented, so a transformer to supply filament voltage wouldn't be necessary

Here is how to check your tubes. The "book" might say check the tubes in a tube checker. An

old-time technician wouldn't. He would use his multimeter. So, take your multitester, put it on ohms X10. Take out the tubes one at a time and do a continuity check of the filaments. In the schematic, you will notice that most tubes use pins 2 and 7. The 35Z5GT uses pin 3 also. The 12SQ7GT uses pins 7 and 8. It doesn't matter what the ohms reading is — if the needle moves over toward "0," the tube is OK. Most of the time the bad tube will be the 35Z5GT or the 50L6GT. Check also that the dial lamp filament is OK and that it is the correct type.

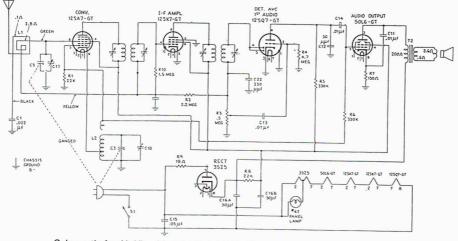
Most of the newer AC/DC radios have miniature tubes like 35W4 and 50B5 and three 12-volt tubes. However, for the miniature tubes, the filament pins are usually 3 and 4. Everything else in the older and newer sets is the same.

Sometimes you will find a hard set to fix — a real "dog." Some radios have a resistor in series with the filaments. Check to see if the tubes are in their right sockets. Be sure the socket pin is not burnt or damaged. Finally, do a continuity check of the complete circuit of the tubes, the switch, and the line cord and its plug. Many times the AC cord is bad at the plug.

THE FILTER CAPACITORS

The filter capacitors of our set are C16A and C16B on the schematic. These are usually dual capacitors underneath the chassis. Sometimes it will be a "can" type mounted on top of the chassis. The B+ comes from the cathode of 35Z5GT, pin #8, through the filter network of C16A, resistor R8, C16B, and on to the rest of the radio. This radio has capacitors of 30 & 30 mFd but others have 50 & 30 mFd, 40 & 40 mFd, or other values. The 33 mFd will substitute for the 30 mFd or 20 mFd, and the 47 mFd will replace 50 mFd or 40 mFd. Some old radio technicians used a double 40 & 40 mFd at 150 volts for just about all their repair jobs.

Here is how to tell if you have bad filter capacitors. Plug in your AC/DC set and let it come on. Do you have a loud hum, a growl or a roar in the *(Continued on following page)*



Schematic for Air King Model A511, A512, Chassis 477, Rider Manual XVIII-4.

(Will Your Radios Play?, continued)

speaker? When you turn the volume control down, is the noise still there? Does your local radio announcer have a garbled voice so you can hardly hear what he is saying? If this is the way your radio sounds, you have bad filter capacitors.

There is a quick way to check filter capacitors before you put them in. Pull the plug on your radio (*always* pull the plug). Take a new 47 mFd capacitor, clip on your alligator leads, and put it right across one of the capacitors in your radio. Be sure to observe polarity. Plug in the radio, and the noise should be gone or almost gone. Always replace both of the filter capacitors.

Sometimes a beginner can be confused about "grounds." On one radio all radio grounds are connected to the chassis. So for any replacement capacitor, the negative or minus end may go to the chassis at any convenient location. On another AC/DC radio all the grounds are wired together but do not connect to the chassis. This is called a "floating ground." On a radio like this, the negative terminal of the capacitor must go to the floating ground, not the chassis.

Also, the schematic is how a draftsman drew it, not how it's laid out in the radio. For instance, on the diagram it looks like the C16B capacitor connects right to the R8 resistor. Instead, it may be soldered to pin 4 of the 50L6GT or to a terminal lug some distance away.

AUDIO TROUBLES

Good tubes and new filter capacitors should have most of your AC/DC radios working. However, some will have a distorted, muffled or weak sound. The trouble is usually in the audio stages, -12SQ7GT or 50L6GT — and it's almost always capacitors C14 or C11.

These capacitors sometimes "leak"; that is, a DC voltage will pass through them. On the 12SQ7GT plate, pin 6, the voltage should be about 50 to 60 volts. If C14 is leaking, there will be a positive voltage on the grid of the 50L6GT, pin 5. If there is any positive voltage — even 1 or 2 volts — replace C14. Sometimes you can't be sure.

More AC/DC Repair References

Carr, Joseph J. Old Time Radios! Blue Ridge Summit, Pa.: Tab Books, 1991.

Foster, Richard. "All You Need To Know About Repairing AC Radios." A.R.C., Mar., June. Oct., '89: May '90.

June, Oct., '89; May '90. Fox, Bill. "Owner Safety and the AC/DC Radio." A.R.C., Oct. '87.

Fred, James A. "All You Need To Know About Repairing AC Radios." A.R.C., Feb., Apr., July, Sep., '88; Jan., Mar., '89.

Johnson, David. Antique Radio Restoration Guide, 2nd Edition. Radnor, Pa.: Wallace Homestead Book Co., 1992.

Teal, Donald. "Service AC-DC Radios at a Profit." Contributed by Paul Williams. From the Pages of Electronic Technician, Dec. 1963. Reprinted, A.R.C., May '96. On the plate of the 50L6GT, pin 3, the voltage should be about 120 volts. There is a capacitor, C11, that goes from the plate to the cathode, pin 8. The voltage on pin 8 should be about 6 volts. On other sets, the capacitor goes across the transformer or directly to ground. If C11 goes to ground and is shorted, it can burn out your 35Z5GT. The best way to check the capacitor is to disconnect the ground end, and check the resistance of the capacitor, which should be high.

MORE TROUBLE-SHOOTING HINTS

Sometimes you can't tell if the RF or the audio circuits are bad. Take a screwdriver, and touch the center lug of the volume control. If your get a "pop" or a good loud "howl," the audio is probably OK.

Some speakers have holes where a little brother stuck a pencil through the cone. Do *not* try to patch the cone. Just take a small scissors and cut out the hole til it's smooth and leave it. I've seen holes as big as silver dollars and the speaker worked OK. If you put a patch on the cone it will either come loose and rattle, or the glue will shrink the cone til it drags.

Sometimes the speaker has a "rattle" or "scratchy" noise. Turn the speaker face up and gently push the cone in and out. Try putting a piece of rolled-up toilet paper between the paper cone and the frame.

Sometimes, under the chassis, you see this horrible looking capacitor. The wax has melted out and the ends may have pulled out. It looks really bad. It's the C15 across the input AC line. If you replace it, you won't hear much difference. It has an RF bypass function.

If your volume control is noisy, fit the wand on a can of WD-40 and spray a little down the shaft. Then rotate the control until the noise goes away.

A suitable fishing line can be used as a substitute dial cord.

Good luck! Remember, if you have a typical 5tube AC/DC set that isn't working, try these tips, and you will be a "radioman." [And why not a "radiowoman"?]

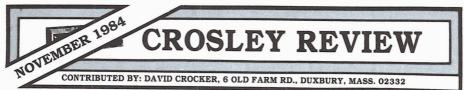
(O.T. Andy Anderson, 118 East Norman Place, Broken Arrow OK 74012)

Photo credit: Doris Anderson.

References:

ARRL Handbook for the Radio Amateur. Newington, Conn.: American Radio elay League, 1989.
Rider, John F. Perpetual Trouble Shooter's Manual, Vol. XVIII. New York: John F. Rider.

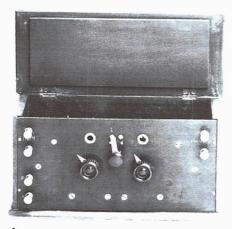
In 1938 at age 15, Andy Anderson built his first crystal set. A few years later, he acquired a ham license, W5IWL and his FCC telephone license. His collection includes 25 black dials, several wooden radios, about 100 plastic AC/DC radios, and 50 or so novelty sets. A visit to New England in 1996 gave him a glimpse of some of our local contributors' collections and left a "soft spot for A.R.C." in his heart.



(Dave's address in 1998 is: 4B Beechwood Point Dr., Mashpee, MA 02649)

OF ALL THE RADIO MANUFACTURERS, ONE OF THE MOST POPULAR WITH COLLECTORS IS THE CROSLEY RADIO CORP. DUE TO THIS WIDE-SPREAD INTEREST, ANTIQUE RADIO CLASSIFIED IN COOPERATION WITH DAVE CROCKER, A CROSLEY SPECIALIST, WILL PRESENT A SERIES OF ARTICLES SHOWING THE MANY MODELS OF CROSLEYS MANUFACTURED. THIS WILL HELP ASSIST THE COLLECTOR IN IDENTIFYING THE MANY TYPES OF CROSLEYS MADE, AS WELL AS INCREASING ONES' KNOWLEDGE ON THE SUBJECT. ANY COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS CONCERNING THIS COLUMN SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO DAVE WITH A SASE FOR REPLY. SEE ADDRESS ABOVE.

<u>PHOTO - FRONT COVER</u>; THE CROSLEY MODEL V (EARLY 1923) WAS THE OUT-GROWTH OF THE HARKO SENIOR. THIS ONE, IN IT'S OVERHANGING LID BOX AND REGENERATIVE CIRCUITRY WAS CALLED THE V-C TYPE. IT SOLD FOR \$20, AND EMPLOYED THE FAMOUS WOODEN "BOOK-TYPE" CONDENSER FOR TUNING. THE HOLE IN THE LID WAS FACTORY INSTALLED TO FIT THE HEIGHT OF WD-11 TUBES WITH THEIR ADAPTORS WHEN USED.

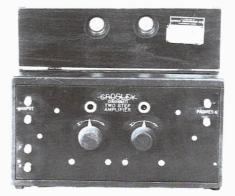


TIN 1922, THIS 2-STEP AMPLIFIER WAS HIS FIRST SUCH AMP, AND DESIGN-ED TO MATCH UP WITH HIS HARKO ONE-TUBE RECEIVER. THEY SHARED IDENTICAL CABINETS AND SOLD FOR \$25 (\$5 MORE THAN THE HARKO). INSIDE IT USED TWO "SHELTRAN" TRANSFORMERS.

THIS CROSLEY 2-STEP AMPLIFIER IS AN UPDATED 1923 VERSION. IT HAS THE NEWER TYPE KNOBS, NEWER STYLE AUDIOS AND THE MORE FAMILIAR CAB-INET. SOME HAD A LID THUMB-HOLES SOME, LIKE THIS ONE, HAD TUBE CLEARANCE HOLES IN THE TOP, SOME NEITHER. THE \$20 PRICE TAG WAS \$5 LESS THAN THE YEAR BEFORE.



THE RFTA UNIT WAS A RADIO FREQ-UENCY TUNED AMPLIFIER, WAS PRODUCED IN LATE 1922 IN THE NEWER-STYLED CABINET. ITS PURPOSE WAS TO ADD ONE STAGE OF RADIO FREQUENCY TO THE ALSO RE-STYLED HARKO.





Baughman Auction Irving, Texas — May 17, 1998 CONTRIBUTED BY RAY CHASE

Robert and Linda Baughman of Dallas, Texas, disposed of a major portion of their radio/phonograph collection, along with other antiques and collectibles, at an auction on May 17, 1998, at the Holiday Inn DFW Airport South, in Irving, Texas. The Tom Harris Auction Co. of Marshalltown, Iowa, assisted by Richard Zuber Auctions of Wichita Falls, Texas, arranged and conducted the event. Registered bidders were from 12 states, as well as from Germany and England.

One seldom sees an auction with this level of quality radios, and the Baughmans should, indeed, be proud of what they accumulated and restored. Tom Harris had prepared an 8-page detailed catalog with color and black and white photos which could be ordered before the auction. The nonradio items included a large number of tin advertising signs for soft drinks and automobilia, as well as theater advertising. These and other general antiques were not recorded.

Tom Harris Auctions travels nationwide to hold auctions or to pick up fine collections to sell at any location. Professional photographs, catalogs, and marketing are a specialty of the company, which is planning an annual fall consignment radio auction starting in 1999. To participate, you may contact the company directly.

Viewing was Saturday evening and Sunday morning before the auction began at 11 A.M. The excellent layout afforded ample examination time and access, except that many consoles were



Auctioneer Tom Harris takes an oath never to mistake a Coke can for a radio!

lined up back-to-back. After all, who wants to buy a console without looking at the innards? The problem was eventually resolved, and most missing catalog numbers were added to the listing.

There were 176 nonradio lots and about 265 cataloged radio items which were to be sold last. In addition some 50 to 75 noncataloged radio items were added at the end. The radio portion of the auction yielded slightly over \$44,000.

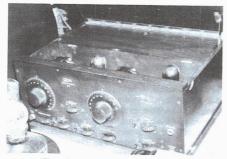


This auction offered something for everyone: high-end Zenith and Midwest consoles, mirror and Catalin table sets, novelty tube-type radios, Art Deco Bakelites, highly desireable black-dial Zenith tombstones, as well a variety of dealer display signs.

Among the highlights were a restored Majestic Charlie McCarthy radio selling at \$1,400, a Regency TR-1 transistor radio at \$500, and a Zenith Walton's tombstone at \$1,500. Mirrored and Catalin radios sold as high as \$2,500, while Zenith and Midwest consoles brought up to \$1,200. Phonographs also sold well.

The radios went on the block at 1:35 P.M., at which time Tom picked up the pace so as to end at a reasonable time. Texas auctions are a bit different from those in the East with ringmen assisting the auctioneer in spotting bidders and regularly calling out loudly, "Yup," as they spot bidders. I guess it's the local custom, but it sounded like a cattle auction at times.

The audience was sparser than I had thought it should be for such a well advertised auction, but the bids were there for most of the sale, and prices were generally in line with the quality of the merchandise. The large batch of transistor radios



This Grebe CR-12 sold for \$700.

did not seem to attract much activity, and many prices, I thought, were low.

Towards the end of the auction, the audience dwindled - maybe the money had run out. After the cataloged items were sold, it became somewhat of a "walk-around auction" with the few remaining bidders moving with the auctioneer to the merchandise. I was not able to record all the items sold at this time, but there were some good bargains here. The radio portion did move at a faster pace with the last items going at a little after 5:00 P.M..

All in all, it was a memorable experience even if you did not buy anything. In the listing below, condition is good-to-excellent in all cases unless otherwise noted. All prices are rounded down to the dollar and do not include the 10 percent buyer's premium.

vg=very good, f=fair, p=poor, NT=no tubes, WT=with tubes, N.I.B.=new in box, WC=with case

Addison Catalin, blue & yellow, repro grille, knobs .. 700 Admiral Beetle table, plastic, w/push buttons85 Advertising signs, stand-up cardboard, about 1' x 2',

mostly about TV tubes, (6)70 Airline 8U table, brown plastic, very Deco, '40s 60 Airline 62-101 console, 6-legged lowboy, '30s 275 Airline 62-351 table, brown plastic60



This Crosley Seeburg Select-O-Matic wall-mount jukebox replica sold for \$50, while the Champaign Bottle radio brought a bid of \$350. The Emerson Model 104 tombstone sold for \$200. and the Zenith 5S220 "cube" went for \$150.

American Bosch 440T, original finish, working225 American Bosch 585 Radio/Bar console, w/4 storage compartments (2 each side), w/locks and key, no glassware, super, seldom seen
Crosley 5 20 better and grey
Closley 5-38 battery set, NT, p
Grosley 50, w/one 199 tube
Crosley 51, NT
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(sentinded on following page)

(Baughman Auction, continued)



The butterscotch Fada Catalin (left) sold for \$700, while the unusual, pentagon-shaped, 1940s Crown with red foil under the glass sold for \$650.

DeWald Repwood midget, nice
Edison official LAB phonograph, floor model, oak,
1915, reproducer 4R11
Edison Standard phono, w/morning glory horn 650
Emerson 104 tombstone, '36
Emerson 520C Catalin, brown and cream, chip out 175
Emerson 888 "Pioneer" transistor radio, turquoise 20
Emerson 888 Pioneer transistor radio, red60
Emerson AW7 tombstone, original finish, 4 knobs,
plays but needs tuning gear275
Emerson port. turntable, white & orange plastic, '60s 10
Emerson Radio illuminated clock sign, 8" x 3' 25
Fada 155 wood midget, '30s90
Fada 1000 Catalin butterscotch, w/butterscotch
knobs, small hairline on grille700
GE 61 stepped tombstone, 12 tubes, 5 knobs, small
veneer damage

General TV Baby Grand piano table, small, wood, refinished 175 Gilfillian GN-5 Neutrodyne, very nice cabinet, WT .. 80 Grebe CR-12, WT, (award winner)700 Grebe small sales brochure60 H.F. Deluxe transistor radio, coral, WC25 HearEver Red Rocket crystal set, original box, '50s 40 Hi-Delity 6T330 transistor radio, red, WC, N.I.B. 15 Hickock 600A tube tester 40 Hitachi TH660 transistor radio, red and gold grille .. 20 Hitachi TH666 transistor radio, red and grey, WC .. 70 LeWol "Best" red leatherette 125 Magnavox "Magna Mate 7" midget transistor radio, WC .. 25 Magnavox AM60 transistor radio, red, WC15 Magnavox AM80 transistor radio, mint green 15 Magnavox AM80 transistor radio, mint green, WC ... 10 Magnavox M-1 all-metal horn speaker, w/base 80 Majestic Charlie McCarthy, restored 1,400 Marvel rhinestone mini-transistor radio, WC80 Marvel transistor radio, blue5 Mayfair ST6J transistor radio, blue and gold 65 Mic radio, Station KASI, plastic, small crack 125 Mickey Mouse telephone figural, push button 60 Midwest "Skyscraper" console, 16-tube, chrome dial ... 700 Midwest 18-38 console, 18-tube, motorized tuning,

large chrome dial550 Midwest console, 16-tube, Deco, w/chrome dial 500 Midwest console, 18-tube, chrome dial 1,300 Mir-Ray radio, w/beveled mirrors all around2,500 Motorola 53A table, small, '30s70 Motorola 56A table, small, black plastic, '50s 15 Motorola Radiofon brown midget, 2 knobs 200 Motorola X-11E transistor radio, black and gold 10 Motorola X-15E transistor radio, black5 Music Master horn speaker, w/wood bell 135 Olympic B127057 transistor radio, white and blue, WC ... 10 Omega transistor radio, blue and white, WC 15 Omega transistor radio, white w/red dial, WC 15 Omscolite 7 transistor radio, red/white/gold, cracked 12 Tower ornate metal speaker, '20s 140 Philco 15X (Lazy X) Deco chairside, w/remote

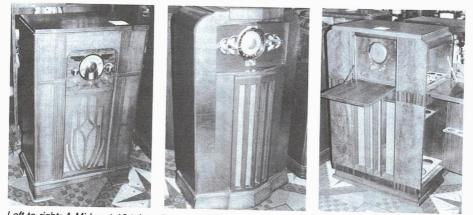
refinished, working 150



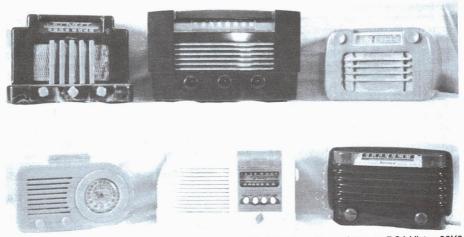
Left : A 1933 Philco Lazy X lift-top chairside with its remote credenza speaker that sold for \$1,100. Right: A scarce 2' x 3' RCA Radiotrons metal dealer display sign that sold for \$250.

and a second (c), novenue adards, meas,
iviexican, no dust jackets, vg
Mexican, no dust jackets, vg
Hadio News magazines, 20s and 30s (about 10) 30
Radio Service, '50s plastic lighted sign, 8" x 26" 30
Badio Shack Mickey Meyes transister radio bl
Radio Shack Mickey Mouse transistor radio, blue,
original box
Radiovision cabinet, small tombstone-shaped, NT,
no motor
Raytheon ad sign, cardboard stand-up, 18" x 24" 5
Baytheon lighted plactic tube diaplay to x 24
Raytheon lighted plastic tube display tower
RCA Radiola 103 tapestry speaker 104
RCA Radiola IIIA, NT
RCA Radiotrons Tube metal sign, about 2' x 3', '20s, some
rust and frame deterioration but scarce
RCA sign for portable radio B batteries, cardboard,
2' v A'
3' x 4'
RCA Victor Nipper, 9.5" contemporary ceramic bank 70
RCA Victor Nipper, stuffed, 2.5' high, '90s
BCA Victor "His Masters Voice" ad framed and
matted, 12" x 14" 20
matted, 12" x 14"
crack '50c
crack, '50s
HCA victor sign, All-American Transistors, 6" x 15" 10
RCA VICTOR Sign, RADIO/TV, metal, double-sided
flanged, 12" x 18" 50
RCA Victor sign, TV/Radio Service and Electron
Tubes, 23" x 40", rough in spots, '50s
RCA Victor sign, TV/RADIO SVC, metal, 8" x 24" 40
BCA Vistor tube coddu concil (11 (2)
RCA Victor tube caddy, small, full, (2)
RCA VICTOR TUDE Caddy, large, full 30
RCA Victor 66X8 "tuna boat" Catalin, red w/blue
Knobs
Realtone transistor radio, green, crack, WC
Regency TR-1 transistor radio, cloud grey, WC 500
Rider menuele 1 5 abridged, cloud grey, WC 500
Rider manuals, 1-5 abridged and Vols. 3 to 20, f 275
Sears 7216 mini-transistor radio, white and aqua 25
Sears transistor radio, blue, WC
Sentinel Catalin, butterscotch, '40s
Sentinel table, "Beetle" (mottled finish), 3 knobs, '40s 110
Silvertone transistor radio, mint green, (2)
5, 5

Sonora WAU-243 table, red and white plastic, dial on top, Deco 170 Standard Micronic Ruby transistor radio 30 Standard transistor radio, black and gold 5 Stewart-Warner 1261 large stepped tombstone 300 Stewart-Warner Air-Pal radio, small, white plastic, dials on top 90 Stewart-Warner Porto Baradio, some warpage on plastic facia, 2 glasses missing 125 Sylvania '50s Radio/TV Service plastic sign 45 Telephone, Elvis figural, N.I.B. 50 Toshiba transistor radio counter display case 10 Toshiba transistor radio 5 Trophy baseball radio, missing knobs and screen on top, needs lots of work, p 225 Trutone table, "Big Apple," "Boomerang," Deco, 2 knobs, ivory, '40s 110 Tube tester, large drugstore-style console, w/100+ tubes, top plastic sign broken 25 Tung-Sol lighted advertising clock, "Radio/TV 25	
Service." 14" round 170	
U.S. Apex large cathedral, 3 knobs, working nice 250	
Universal transistor radio, aqua and gold grille, WC 20 Victor II Talking Machine 1904 disc phono,	
w/morning glory horn, weak spring	
Victor Model P Talking Machine disc phono w/horn	
1902	
Victoria 491 transistor radio, WC, grev, N.I.B. 20	
Viscount transistor radio, w/box, black and white,	
chipped	
Do For Me" and "There's Good Blues Tonight" 50	
Westinghouse "Little Jewel" refrigerator radio green 70	
Westinghouse "Little Jewel" refrigerator radio, white, a little rough	
a little rough	
Westinghouse Aeriola Sr., WT and label	
Westinghouse RC, NT, super condition	
Westinghouse WR23 tombstone, 4 knobs	
Windsor 6 transistor radio, WC	
Zenith "Long Distance" porcelain advertising sign, 3' x 5', minor roughness	
3' x 5', minor roughness	
Zeniul IV Christmas cardboard sign, 1.5' x 2' 15	
(Continued on following page)	



Left to right: A Midwest 16-tube, chrome-dial Skyscraper console selling at \$700; a Midwest 18-tube, chrome-dial console at \$1,300; and an American Bosch Model 585 console, including a built-in bar, at only \$250.



Top left to bottom right: An Addison black and yellow swirled Catalin selling at \$770, an RCA Victor 66X8 "tuna boat" Catalin with red body and blue knobs at \$700, a Sentinel butterscotch Catalin at \$1,320, a Fada 1000 butterscotch Catalin "bullet" with a hairline grille crack at \$770, an Admiral beetle plastic Art Deco at \$85, and a 1940s Bendix black and green Catalin with a crack at \$440.

(Baughman Auction, continued)



Clockwise from top left: A Columbia BF Graphophone with a brass horn selling at \$632, an RCA Radiola 103 tapestry speaker at \$104, a 1904 Victor II with moming glory horn at \$900, a LeWol "Best" red leatherette at \$125, a 1902 Victor Model P disc phonograph with horn at \$1,000, and an Edison Standard cylinder phonograph with morning glory horn (not shown) at \$650.

Zenith 7S28A Aztec large tombstone, black dial (not
shutter), 4 knobs, refinished
shutter), 4 knobs, refinished
5 knobs refinished 650
Zenith 9S232 Walton's tombstone, refinished,
plays
Zenith 9S263 console, oval, w/shutter dial, no speaker,
one knob missing, not original grille cloth, refinished 300
one knob missing, not original grile cloth, reministed ooo
Zenith 9S264 chairside, shutter dial, refinished,
needs dial belt, unusual
Zenith 9S367 console, 9-tube, shutter dial, Deco 325
Zenith 10S130 tombstone, big black dial (not
shutter), 5 knobs, refinished, plays 1,000
Zenith 12A58 Jr. Stratosphere console
Zenith 12S267 console, shutter dial, new grille
cloth
Zenith 12S568 console, 12-tube, shutter dial 175
Zenith 15U269 console, shutter dial, '37 1,200
Zenith 300-1 Royal Trans-Oceanic transistor
portable, knob missing
Zenith 5808 Radiorgan chairside, black dial (not
chutter) working
Zenith 8509V table, red and white plastic, '60s 20
Zenith Royal 16 ladies small transistor radio, very nice o
Zenith Royal 50L transistor radio, black and white,
WC
Zenith Royal 80 and 85 transistor radios,
beige (2) 10
Zenith Royal 500 transistor radio, black
Zenith Royal 500 transistor radio, maroon
Zenith Trans-Oceanic
Zenith transistor radio, black
Zenitri transistor radio, sidor initiati

(Ray Chase, 1350 Marlborough Ave., Plainfield, NJ 07080)

(Tom Harris Auction Company, 105 N. 2nd Ave., Marshalltown, Iowa 50158. 515-753-3865. Richard Zuber Auctions, Wichita Falls, Texas. 940-692-2250)

CD REVIEW

The "First Lady of Radio" Sings Again

REVIEWED BY PAUL S. BOYER

In January 1920 Dr. Lee DeForest brought a 23-yearold woman to the microphone of his wireless studio in New York City's World Tower. In a cramped studio with no accompaniment, Miss Vaughn DeLeath sang "Swanee River" to the delight of the listening audience, most of whom were equipped with nothing more than crystal sets. As far as we know, this was the first broadcast of a live singing performance, and it launched a spectacular career, even as it sensationalized radio.

The singer was a mid-western girl, born in Pulaski, Illi-

nois, in 1896. At age 12, after her father's death, she moved with her mother and sister to Los Angeles, where she attended school and studied music. She began writing songs, attended Mills College for two years, and then struck out on her own as a performer. Her somewhat complex given name, Leonore Vonderleith, was doubtless a hindrance, so she essentially made her surname into her full name "Vaughn." This change also conveniently concealed her family's German roots, a move which may have seemed prudent just after the Great War.

Vaughn DeLeath's voice had unusual range — from deep contralto to soprano. A skilled musician with an unusually varied repertoire, she could handle the quick rhythms of the jazz age, the nostalgic dialect songs of the old South, humorous novelty numbers, and sentimental love songs. At times she would add a surprising soprano flourish to a performance dominated by her soft, mid-range crooning.

Early recordings demanded careful control of dynamic range, which could not be handled by the recordcutting technology of the time. Similarly, early broadcasting equipment would overmodulate and even be damaged by the excessive volume of unrestrained operatic voices. Vaughn's experienced and controlled singing was perfect for the new medium, which did not reproduce well in the higher-pitched ranges.

Today we have double-dubbing, infinite takes, and the electrical manipulation which enable us to make almost any celebrity's voice, even a pig's grunt, into a fattened producer's purse. All this has come in later decades. The recording and broadcasting artists in the 1920s required real talent of a sort not generally evident in today's popular musicians.

This is what most impressed me when I first heard Vaughn DeLeath in three selections of a 1992 CD release of 1929 recordings — "Unreleased Edison



Laterals 1" from Diamond Cut Productions, Hibernia, N. J.). The three cuts in that record are still my personal favorites, and demonstrate the diversity of her ability.

DIAMOND CUT PRODUCTIONS

Thanks to Rick Carlson and Craig Maier, a couple of technically adept and dedicated enthusiasts, a treasure trove of recordings from the late 1920s is gradually becoming available. These are performances originally intended for distribution by the Edison Company in its new lateral

series of disks. The project was abandoned about the time of the onset of the Great Depression, and the master cuts have lain, largely unattended, in the attic of the Edison Laboratory in South Orange, N. J. Some have been warped, cracked, deformed, and oxidized.

After digitizing the recordings, Carlson and Maier have processed them with their own software to restore the original quality as far as possible, but without adding anything not in the original. These are not surround-sound stereo, but the fidelity is state-of-theart for 1929, and probably sounds at least as good to us now as it would have on a contemporary phonograph or broadcast over the airwaves.

The latest issue from Diamond Cut Productions is a delightful, 21-selection CD (a full 67 minutes!) of Vaughn DeLeath. For anyone who has radios from the 1920s and 1930s, this is perfect listening as you work on restoration, or gloat over your collection, or show off your radio-treasures to friends. Some day I plan to transmit on (legal) low-power AM, so that my sets will have something appropriate to receive, and this is the sort of performer I will book.

The notes which accompany the new DeLeath CD are wonderfully informative, and to some degree compensate for the injustice of history in neglecting such an accomplished individual. After all, in addition to her singing, Vaughn DeLeath managed an early radio station — WDT in New York. Her crooning style was picked up by Bing Crosby, Rudy Vallee, and others. She was also a morning host on WMCA in New York.

"Vaughn DeLeath, 'The Original Radio Girl", Edison Laterals 5, is available from Diamond Cut Productions, P.O. Box 305, Hibernia, NJ 07842-0305; telephone: (973) 316-9111.

(Paul S. Boyer, 27 Sand Spring Rd., Morristown, NJ 07960-6758)



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

Bravo Douglas Re: Zenith History

Dear Editor:

I absolutely loved Alan Douglas' tart response to Cones and Bryant regarding Zenith history in the August '98 A.R.C. Each author obviously must decide how to interpret the shreds of info uncovered by research. I believe that Douglas has the most pragmatic (and persistent!) approach, steeped in a very broad knowledge of the the history of the radio business. His sharp wit makes his writing personable and refreshing. I look forward to each of his articles and hope to see many more.

Mark T. Oppat, Plymouth, MI

Embrace the Internet

Dear Editor:

Hope you will continue to assess the merits of going completely worldwide on the internet with your magazine. I am 66, a USN veteran of the Korean War era, and see no need to be a Luddite [a person opposed to technological change]. We need to harness the massive reach of PC communications. With satellite emanation of the internet coming, the tiniest hamlet in Timbuktu will have access to battery-powered, laptop reasons to buy your radios. Let's embrace, envelop that market.

Hertz, Marconi, De Forest, and FM's Edwin Armstrong would leap for joy over the internet. Take a month and learn the internet with a used \$500 computer [or under \$200 WebTV box.] You will never see anything like it again for creating knowledge and wealth.

Bill McCusker, Cedar Rapids, IA

Internet — Sooner, not Later

Dear Editor:

I have been following the debate about the advantages or disadvantages of having the net online for some time. It seems that no matter what methods of staggering your mail you use, someone will always get his copy first. One writer complained that he did not have access to the internet at work and would be at a disadvantage to those who do. I do have access at work but would not have access to my job for long if I were to spend my time searching for antique radios. My employers have a strange indifference to my hobby.

I could argue that retired people have an advantage in being able to read their mail before the working people get home. Perhaps they should be required to sign an agreement not to read the ads until 7:00 P.M. Obviously, this is carrying the argument to an absurdity, but it illustrates that no method can be entirely fair to everyone.

Having A.R.C. ads online is one of the few ways of getting them simultaneously to everyone who has internet access. One of the advantages would be the capability to search the ads for keywords, which the computer can do very efficiently. It would seem inevitable that sooner or later, your ads will be on the internet. I prefer sooner rather than later.

Michael Arthur, Pearl River, LA

On the Baldwin Horn Speaker

Dear Editor:

Regarding Dave Crocker's April 1998 article on the Master-Baldwin Clarophone, I have a horn speaker unit with the patent date or dates on it. The patent is on the balanced armature type of driver unit. The later ones use an aluminum instead of mica disc. Some companies made semi-balanced units, but they were no match for the "full" type. I use only Baldwin headsets with my crystal sets. They have much more output than any other type.

It seems to me that Baldwin later manufactured speakers under the Utah name. Utah must still be in business, since I have a late permanent magnet speaker with the name "Utah" and labeled "Made in Utah."

Herb Elltz, Juniata, NE

Internet — Collecting is More

Dear Editor:

I am responding to a letter from Mr. Tom Neely in the July 1998 issue. Mr. Neely seems to have concluded that folks who do not use the internet are a bunch of humorous troglodytes [cave dwellers] stricken with class envy.

Collecting radio is about much more than owning objects. It's about fellowship, new friends, catching up with old friends, seeing new and different places, planning a vacation, getting your sale stuff together over winter nights with a soldering iron and a schematic, talking to friends across the country by phone or e-mail, learning the intricacies of forgotten technologies and more. It's about lemonade on hot summer afternoons, the chant of the auctioneer, and communication across the generational lines that have set up so many barriers between all of us. It's also about the many adventures and memories that each piece in a collection represents, and not just hardware. I may get to only one meet a year, but that doesn't matter.

Robert Luedeman, Des Moines, IA

Internet — Part of Evolution

Dear Editor:

I might as well join in the fun about classifieds on the internet. To me the internet is just a part of the evolution of the world. Just as the pump organ was replaced by the player piano, crank telephones by rotary dials, and now Touchtone. Wind-up phonographs went to electric phonographs and LPs to CDs. Checks and credit cards are replacing cash, and now we have debit cards.

I agree that the word "antique" sounds strange when used with the internet, but as much as I love my old radios, I do watch TV. When I was a kid in a small town in Illinois, my phonograph was a wind-up, and the telephone was a candlestick. I still have the telephone.

The internet is just a new way of getting the ads out to people who prefer to surf rather than read the publication. I do both and feel there is a place for both.

Joel G. Anderson, San Diego, CA

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING POLICY

ONE FREE 20-WORD AD for subscribers in each issue; additional words are 29c each. See details below. Classified ads sent by mail, fax or by any other method must be received (not just postmarked!) by Noon Eastern Time on the classified ad deadline date to guarantee inclusion in the current issue. Late ads are held for the following issue. Please enclose correct payment with all ads. Stamps or cash are OK for small amounts. (Canadian and other foreign advertisers, please see "Payment" on page 2 for methods.) "Free words" cannot be accumulated from month to month; free words must be requested when ad is submitted.

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

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

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

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

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

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

CLASSIFIED AD DETAILS BOXED CLASSIFIED AD DETAILS Deadline: NOON ET- 10th of the month! Deadline: 1st of the month! Classified ads must have a standard heading Boxed classified ads can run unchanged for such as WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR TRADE, three months or more. No words are free. Ads may FOR SALE/TRADE, SERVICES, MESSAGE, be shaded and may include bold and all-capital-HELP, AUCTION, MEET, etc. This heading is the ized words freely. The ad need not begin with "For only bold or all-capitalized words allowed in the Sale," etc. Minimum run is 3 months, prepaid. ad. Capitalize only manufacturer names, model Discount: 10% for 6 months: 20% for 12 months. names, etc. This standard ad format makes scan-Boxed Classified Ad Rates per Month ning the ads easier. Nonshaded ads: Before writing your ad, please look over the ads 40¢ per word for all words,* none free, plus in a recent issue of A.R.C., and try to write your ad 10¢ per word for each bold word plus in the same style. Full name (or company name) 10¢ per word for each all-caps word. and address is required in all classified ads: we will Shaded Ads (All words are bold at no charge): add it if you forget. 50¢ per word for all words* plus To encourage varied content of the ads, the 10¢ per word for each all-caps word. same classified ad may be run only once per issue Non-Subscribers: and for only two consecutive months. (To run an Add 20¢ per word to above costs. ad longer, use a boxed classified or display ad.) *Three words can be bold-all-caps at no extra charge. Classified Ad Rates per Month PHOTO & DRAWING DETAILS Subscribers: Deadline: 1st of the month First 20 words: FREE* for all ads with drawings or photos! 29¢ per word for extra words over 20 plus Drawings and photos are encouraged as the 10¢ per word for a shaded ad (count all response to your ad is much larger and the reader words including free words). knows better what you want or are selling. Send in * Subscribers may take 20 free words on your drawing or photograph, and A.R.C. will reonly one ad each month. duce it or enlarge it as needed. Non-Subscribers: Photo and Drawing Rates per Month 47¢ per word plus \$23.00 per month for each photo or drawing 10¢ per word for shaded ad. (If ad is canceled, this amount cannot always be refunded.) Please do not forget to send in the extra 29¢ per CHANGES & CANCELLATIONS word when your classified ad runs over the free 20 Please check your ads carefully before sending them words; your payment will be appreciated, and it in. Once ads are received, it is not always possible to will help to keep A.R.C. healthy. refund the amount sent, pull the ad or make changes.

IMPORTANT — COUNTING WORDS — IMPORTANT

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



A.R.C., P.O. Box 2, CARLISLE, MA 01741 ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

CLASSIFIED AD DEADLINE SEPT. 10th Noon Eastern Time PERIODICALS