

# BULLETIN

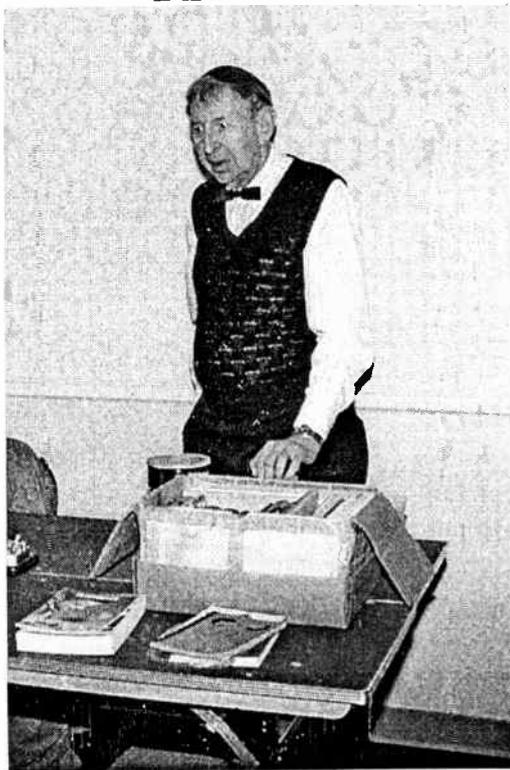
*Indiana Historical Radio Society*  
PRESERVATION FOR POSTERITY

**Vol. 28**

**Fall 1999**

**No.3**

## "RADIO"



**Dr. Ed. Taylor, The IHRHS Historian  
with History, see pages 4 and 5!**



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(revised 10/99)

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

The INDIANA HISTORICAL RADIO SOCIETY is a non-profit organization founded in 1971. Annual membership dues are \$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.

# Coming Events

**IHRS FALL FOLIAGE MEET, Saturday, Oct. 2nd, 1999,**  
A separate mailing has already been processed on this event.

**“SPARK” Swap meet: Saturday, October 30th, 1999**  
Englewood, OH, VFW Hall, Post 7741,  
7921 N. Main Street (I-70 exit 29, Rte. 48, go south 2 miles)  
(6:30AM), 7 AM to noon. Info: Harold Parshall, (937) 268- 2909.  
e-mail sparkinc@juno.com .

**“C.A.R.S.” Cincinnatti Antique Radio Society, Wed., Nov. 17, ‘99.**  
Meeting starts 7:30PM, Location: I.T.T. Technical Institute, 4750  
Wesley Ave., Norwood, Ohio. Topic and Show & Tell: AC/DC  
portables, with a presentation on Video, Charles Herrold, Part 1.

**IHRS WINTER MEET. Saturday, February 19, 2000 \***  
Note that this is a different date than what was posted in the last  
“Bulletin”. Re-mark your calendars accordingly. Holiday Inn South-  
east, 5120 Victory Lane at Emerson Road exit off of I-465. \*  
7:30AM till ????. Details forthcoming. \* = Due to DOT construc-  
tion which closes the exits off of I-465. you can go to I-65 South-  
bound and proceed to the Southport Rd.exit. Turn left, (east) onto  
Southport Rd. and then turn left (north) on Emerson Ave. which is  
on the east side of the I-65 crossover. If you are coming northbound  
on I-65, note that you will turn right at that Southport Road exit and  
then turn left onto Emerson Ave. Proceed north to the Holiday Inn  
which will be on your right side as you come within sight of the  
I-465 exit.

Contact: Mike Clark, (317) 738-4649 or Herman Gross,  
(765) 459-8308).

**IHRS/AWA 29TH ANNUAL REGIONAL**  
**SPRING FLING RADIO FESTIVAL.**

(see next page)

(coming events, continued)

Thurs., 6/8, Fri. 6/9, and Saturday 6/10, 2000 \* Same great location as last year. Signature Inn East, Washington St. (U.S. 40) @ I-465.

Details forthcoming. \* see "Comments From the Editor".

We may possibly adjust this to being a 2 day event.

(Yes we will have The Charleston Chasers again!)

**IHRS Northern Indiana Summer Meet**, Saturday, August 19, 2000. High Dive Pavilion, 500 East Beardsley Ave., Elkhart, Indiana. Details to be announced later. Contact Ross Smith, (219) 295-7770 or Terry Garl, (219) 679-4280, e-mail IHRSELK98@AOL.COM . Notice that this has been scheduled ahead of the Notre Dame Homecoming Game so as to avoid the motel booking conflicts that we faced this year.

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Here is a letter forwarded to us from Rome, Italy by Ed Taylor that will have interest amongst the members.

"Dear Indiana Historical Radio Society,  
Little Treasures Inc. from Boston (USA) together with TMA Third Millennium Arts, which is an outsourcing software and data storage supplier, has recently put on-line the site called  
<http://www.collezionista.com>

We are pleased to inform you that this site displays a wide range of international selected-epoch radios, available for selling.

For further information, you can visit the above site or send an e-mail to the following addresses: [wvan@gis.net](mailto:wvan@gis.net) and [infotma@iol.it](mailto:infotma@iol.it) .

Thank you for your kind attention, Best Regards,  
Alessandro Giovannini, Rome, Italy."

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### About our Cover

Dr. Edward E. Taylor is one of our 13 original IHRS founders and was on hand when our Constitution was drafted. His role as the Club Historian is well based considering he has observed and helped  
(see next page)

(About Our Cover, continued)

foster the growth. He has a museum that indicates his devotion to the cause. As Historian, he maintains a record base with the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of all members, past or present. He has been the one that has brought the donuts to a fair portion of the meets including the May/June events along with the Ribbons that are awarded for the various contests. Taking that one step further, he has participated in many of the Criteria Judgment events. He makes a regular tour to a variety of "flea markets", auction houses and Antique stores to find various artifacts for his collection. He has built/restored one of the mechanical scanning TV sets that marked the beginning of the Television era.

I first met Dr. Taylor when he was in charge of the Metrology Department at P.R.Mallory Company here in Indianapolis some years back when I was making sales calls visiting the engineers. He was responsible for seeing that Calibration Standards were met and documented for Mallory's facilities in: Indianapolis, Glasgow, Kentucky, Sparta, Tennessee, and London, Ontario. The company I worked for had a Metrology Group that could repair and calibrate instruments with traceability to the National Bureau of Standards and so we had some common interests. Those interests expanded and it was Ed who introduced me to the concepts of the IHRS. He has been a continual resource that I used quite often as president of the club and I still continue to tap his knowledge. He forwards articles that he thinks may be of interest for inserting in the "Bulletin". You may have noted his "Have You Read?" book reviews that we have published. There are many other things that Ed has done for the IHRS including joining me for the trip up to Bluffton to help sort, price, and catalog the books that Herman Zeps donated to the club in his estate when he passed away. He maintains a "Scrapbook" listing many items that represent important parts of the club's history and monitors and cares for equipment, books and other material that has been donated to the club. I am sure you all have found Ed to be a helpful asset as well as a good friend. Look for his auto license, "RADIO".(see cover) We are fortunate to have Ed Taylor in our club.

Bob O'Friel, editor.

# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

ALEX R. WHITAKER

Greetings to the membership of the IHRS. After a long absence due to my daughter's lengthy hospitalization, I am back to write my last presidential greeting to you all. Happily, Jessica, our daughter, was able to come home on September 21, 1999. She was in Riley Hospital for Children for 149 days which was almost 22 weeks. When you add the almost 3 weeks spent in the hospital before Jessica's delivery, our whole ordeal lasted about 25 weeks. Jessica, at this point, is on oxygen, breathing treatments, and a monitor that displays her heartbeat and respiration, but is doing well. She will be weaned off of all these things as she continues to improve. Thanks to all of you that offered support to Terri and I during our ordeal.

These circumstances have put me out of circulation as IHRS President for almost 6 months. Many thanks to our treasurer, Mike Clark, and to "Bulletin" editor Bob O'Friel for helping me direct IHRS affairs from a distance. Without these two, I would not have been able to get what little I have gotten done in the last 6 months. Also, my apologies to new IHRS members that have not received welcoming letters from me yet. I intend to start sending these out again in the next few weeks.

As many of you know, I will be stepping aside to let another serve as your IHRS president. Due to my daughter taking most of my spare time, I feel that I do not have time to give the office its due. The next IHRS president will have a number of issues confronting him or her that will have to be resolved in the next year or so. First and foremost is the problem of the lessening interest in the 3 or more day meetings. Our big June meeting had beautiful weather, and a lot of good "stuff" in the flea market, but it faded away early Friday afternoon. Many people were packing up and leaving at 10 or 11AM. This left only a handful for Saturday's flea market and auction. I have also heard from those that attended Lansing and Elgin, that the same thing is happening at those locations...but in differing degrees. The next president will have to decide how to streamline our meetings so that they continue to meet the needs of our changing hobby.

Another big issue facing the new IHRS Chief Executive is the decrease in attendance at IHRS business meetings. I was encouraged by the large number of members that stayed for the luncheon and business meeting at

(see next page)

Elkhart. If we could only have that kind of participation at Greenfield and at the Winter meeting at Indianapolis it would make a good difference. The next president will have to be able to generate new enthusiasm and incentives for members to stay for business meetings, volunteer to help at IHRS events, and offer to serve as IHRS officers. (It is your club and we need your inputs as to how you want it run). Your officers have made the attempt, over the last several years, to make business meetings shorter and to the point. We still, however, have intermittent attendance at best. These are but a few of the things facing the new president.

During the business meet at Elkhart, a big issue was brought up before the membership. Over the last year or so, the cost of doing business for the IHRS has gone up dramatically. Printing costs for the "Bulletin" have gone up a lot, and postage has increased also and we have been notified of further increases. Providing drinks and the tent for the June meeting and renting the Holiday Inn for the Winter meeting have increased quite a bit. With all these things in mind, the first dues hike in around 7 to 8 years was proposed. Two amounts to increase dues by were proposed: 2 and 5 dollars. These would bring yearly dues to either \$12 or \$15. We asked for a show of hands of those who would be in favor of \$12 per year, and who would be in agreement with a \$15 per year rate. About 65% showed their approval of \$15. We will take a vote on these proposed dues increases at the Greenfield meeting.

I would like to close by saying "thank you" for letting me serve as your IHRS president over the last two years. It really has been fun coming up through the various club offices since I started as Secretary in 1994, ( or was it 1993?). I have made a lot of friends in the club, and have gotten to experience the great fellowship in our hobby that the IHRS members give. I would recommend serving the IHRS to anyone with the time and interest. You may give a lot to the club, but it also gives a lot back to you. My collecting interests and technical know-how have been honed by tapping the enormous resource of knowledge that our members possess. Whether it was a better way to clean radio cabinets, how to fix a '20's battery radio, or what to collect and why, I learned from talking to people in the IHRS. I think a lot of people miss out on this when they only come to sell at the flea market and don't bother to get to know the other folks that are there. Our members are, for the most part, a friendly and helpful bunch that love to be asked questions about the hobby that they are passionate about. Tap this resource, and get to know other IHRS members. You'll be glad you did. Thank you and God Bless. Alex R. Whitaker, IHRS president.

## COMMENTS FROM THE EDITOR

Well, the good news is that as of 9/23/99, Terri and Alex Whitaker's baby, Jessica Lynn, has been released from the hospital after undergoing surgery. All are home now and are in a "returning to normal living conditions" state accompanied by having the new addition to the family. We thank you for your prayers and best wishes. This has been a difficult situation for all.

There are many important matters to be reviewed at the Greenfield meet coming up on Saturday, October 2nd. including the election of the new slate of officers so your attendance is needed. There will certainly be a lot of exciting opportunities for adding to your collections and there is the chance of meeting with new friends as well as "catching up" with the latest happenings with those you have known in the past.

In regards to my entry into the "Comments from the Editor" in the last "Bulletin" about the reduction in attendance at the various clubs involved in collecting and restoring Antique radios, I have received some interesting feedback. Glenn Fitch, a long time IHRS member, noted that there were fewer attending the "Lansing Meet" which has been one of the larger events attributable to 5 members no longer being active, 7 dropped out and, unfortunately 7 having passed away. This is part of the attrition pattern that we all face. He suggested having the auction the first night of our June meeting and publicizing it in newspaper ads so as to expand our scope of contacts. Hopefully, this can also lead to adding new members. He suggested that a descriptive listing be listed in said ad so as to attract those now involved in our hobby who are not aware of our club's existence. There are numbers of these unaware collectors and this fact can be substantiated when you visit garage sales. Many times, you will hear the comment, "Oh you should have been here yesterday. A man came by and bought several radios from us". We seldom find the identity of "that man". Unfortunately, when the term "old radios" is mentioned as the object of your search, many envision the 1980

(see next page)

“Comments from the Editor”, continued

“boom box” or similar type of radios rather than the 1920’s battery sets, or Cathedral you have in mind. Once in a while, I do find a surprise and someone brings out an old radio that exceeds the expectations but those opportunities are seldom encountered.

One other factor that could be contributing to the lessening of the attendance at the meets is the expanded interest in the Internet. Specifically, eBay seems to be a growing influence in the sales of antique radios/phonos etc.. This may be so but I trust that there are those amongst us who still like to feel and see the merchandise before getting “serious” about it. There is also the comraderie and renewal of old friendships that I would miss. The meets to me represent a whole lot more than just selling or buying a radio or so. The seminars, contests and displays along with the Banquet, (including the entertainment), and seeing such a wide variety of equipment out in the dealer lots to me represents a lot of fun and excitement. I don’t believe that a tour on the computer matches that. Seeing all of you at one of our meets means a whole lot more to me than looking at a 14 to 17 inch screen representing the non-personal contacts from someone who has no real appreciation of what he has and is merely looking for the “quick buck”. You may have noticed that I have not, as of yet, set up a table at the meets to sell anything. Up to now, that has been because I wanted to make the rounds seeking the items that excite my tastes in collecting. Yes, things are about to change. I have quite a backlog of items awaiting restoration and some duplications that now need to be cleared out so that I can finally get to the work benches. Again, I want to see who I’m dealing with so that I can expand my network of contacts. I don’t feel that selling “on line” will ever give that to me.

As you will see from Alex Whitaker’s comments elsewhere in this edition, we do have some serious issues facing us and, at this point, we need your inputs in order to lay out a clear path for the future. It’s your club. Please voice your feelings and suggestions.

In the meantime, I’ll see you wherever Radios Live.

Bob O’Friel, Editor, IHRS “Bulletin”

# IHRS TREASURER'S REPORT

Michael A. Clark, Ph.D., M.D.

As of September 18, 1999, we have about \$5,000 in our bank account, but we have yet to be billed for the printing and mailing of our last 2 issues of the IHRS "Bulletin", (and additional mailings, total approximately \$1700). We currently have 365 members listed in our computerized database. As of today, (when 3 more people paid, 208 members have paid their 1999 dues and an additional 21 members have paid through the end of Y2K. There are 11 "Bulletins" mailed at no charge to retired members or to other Radio Clubs with whom we have a Bulletin exchange. This means that 125 members have not as yet paid their 1999 dues and they will receive no more mailings until their dues are current. You can check your dues status by looking at the mailing label on your "Bulletin" After your last name, the numbers indicate your dues status, e.g., (12/99) means that you are paid through the end of 1999. If you have a question about your dues, please send a postcard to me c/o 6484 East 350 North, Franklin, IN 46131 or an e-mail to: maclark@iupui.edu . An e-mail will be quicker since I can send an electronic reply, but, I still believe in the U.S. Mail.

**Now for the bad news:** We must raise dues next year for the first time since 1993. There are 2 reasons for this: #1 Postage costs continue to rise and are currently the largest single item in our club budget. #2 As of this year's Elkhart meeting, the IHRS has been forced to buy a liability insurance policy at a cost of about \$400/year or \$100 per meeting. This policy covers our club and its members from suits originating from non-members, but, as is the industry standard, does not protect us or the Club from lawsuits by members. We were put into the situation that we could not have had an Elkhart meeting this year without a liability insurance policy. The parking lot on the east side of the Pavilion has a new owner who insisted that, if we were going to use his lot, we had to provide liability coverage. The cost of a liability policy for one day was considerably greater than buying a policy for a whole year.. (I cannot explain this, ask your insurance agent). The bottom line is that insurance against frivolous liability lawsuits will cost each member about a \$1.00 per year.

We must vote on a dues increase at the October 2, 1999 Greenfield meeting. My original suggestion was for a \$2.00/year increase, but many members suggested a \$5.00 increase at the Elkhart meeting. We are currently being hit by unplanned expenses. As an example, I had to pay Holiday Inn for the February meeting room a couple of weeks ago. The hotel's position is that groups book rooms and never

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show up, and the hotel loses money. The guest rooms across the street at the Red Roof Inn are cheaper, but they do not have a meeting room. We will need your votes at Greenfield.

## CLARIFICATION OF IHRS DUES POLICIES

Through the end of calendar year 1999, IHRS memberships are \$10.00/year. Dues are for a calendar year, January through December. There is no pro-rating and no "partial year" membership. If you join anytime during the year, you will receive all of the "Bulletins" for that calendar year. Members whose dues are not paid by the end of January will not receive "Bulletins" for that year until the dues are received. When dues are paid, we will attempt to send all the missed editions, but there are no guarantees that we will be able to do this. Please make life easy for everyone and pay your dues before the end of January.

As we have told you, our club expenses are rapidly escalating and we need to increase dues in the year 2000. We will be voting on this issue at the October 2nd. Greenfield meeting. The proposed increase will be \$15.00/year or 2 years for \$25.00. The discount will only apply if dues are paid in advance. If paid in arrears, the rate will be \$15.00 per year. Please help our club by paying your dues in a timely fashion and please inform us of address changes and corrections.

Thank you.

Michael A. Clark, Treasurer, IHRS , Tel. # (812) 738-4649

(n.b., At the Greenfield meeting, the matter of the dues increase was voted on and the issue has passed. The dues for 2000 are now officially \$15.00/year or 2 years for \$25.00).

*Did you notice? For those of you who found Mike Feldt's great article on the "Showers Consola" radios that we featured in the Winter "Bulletin", Vol. 27, No. 4 edition to be of interest, you may want to see additional notes as appeared in the "Radio Age" August, 1998 edition. This is the publication of the Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club and their article was written by Robert Goad. It's interesting that two stories on this rare radio should show up. We look forward to another good article by Mike Feldt in our next edition.*

# The Indiana Historical Radio Society

## Museum Report

Fred Schultz

The Museum has had another great summer with more and more visitors, (have you been there yet?). These last two weeks saw over 300 visitors coming in to view the wonders that started this great field of communication we call Radio.

Besides our many visitors from Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Illinois, there were those that came from Wisconsin, Vermont, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Pennsylvania, New York, Colorado, California as well as from England and Sweden. Our friends from Sweden donated a rare 1939 model L100 Kungradio. The Kungradio is unique in that it has only an on-off switch and volume control but no

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Above left, Dr. Anders Widell who presented the rare Kungradio to the Museum. Bengt Svensson, a long time member of IHRS from Sweden stands above right.

(IHRS Museum Report, continues)

dial. This was due to the fact that the Swedish government controlled the airways and permitted only one station so there was no need for the dial.

Fred Prohl takes care of the Museum web site, (see the Summer edition of the Bulletin, #2, pages 19 and 20). He recently ran across pictures on the web site taken by a museum visitor. Go to the web page and click on pictures.

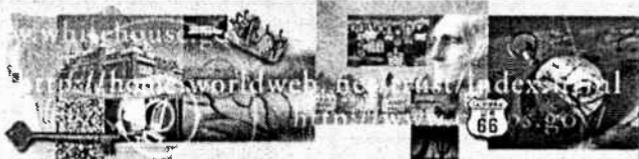
Anyone with radios or other items to loan or donate to the Museum should contact me at (219) 894-3779 or 3092. My e-mail address is [olradio@ligtel.com](mailto:olradio@ligtel.com).

### Fred Schultz



The Schultz family and friends who volunteered to run the Museum food booth at the Ligonier "Marshmallow" festival held over the Labor Day Weekend.

## A SENSE OF CYBERPLACE



**Signing off?** As garage sales go, one under way just outside of Pittsburgh, in Wilkinsburg, Pa., is of historic proportions. That's what a small group of dedicated historians and preservationists there contend as they fight to save the garage where Frank Conrad pioneered radio broadcasting 80 years ago.

Trying to use high-tech communications to rescue the birthplace of a low-tech forerunner, Rick Harris subscribed last April to the National Trust's Internet discussion group to ask for advice on how to preserve Conrad's garage. The two-story, red-brick structure behind Conrad's house is where, amid homemade vacuum tubes, bare wires, and crackling spark coils, the little-known inventor made the first radio broadcasts in 1919.

"Conrad's garage is to the broadcasting industry what Henry Ford's workshop is to the automotive industry or the Wright Brothers' workshop is to the aviation industry," Harris, chairman of the Conrad Project of the National Museum of Broadcasting, tells me. "We have preserved these and the birthplaces of many other industries. Why not the same for broadcasting? We've made some modest progress, but the property still stands in great peril."

So where's the static coming from? While the garage itself has been donated to the museum, the two-and-a-half-story Victorian Gothic revival house and surrounding acreage are now for sale. The museum's coffers fall far short of purchasing the entire property, listed at \$489,000, or dismantling and moving the garage to another location.

Meanwhile, three potential buyers are operating on a totally different wavelength: The house and garage are located in a commercial area of fast-food restaurants and chain stores and will likely be demolished if the museum isn't the buyer. "The chances are 50-50 right now, with time quickly running out for us, to find at least a few hundred thousand dollars just to [buy] the property," says Harris, who grew up a few blocks away. He helped start the Conrad Project in 1987 and 10 years later set up the Save the Garage Web site (<http://trfn.eplgh.org/nmb>) to reach a national audience. While the Web site has drawn some donations and the attention of some national foundations and organizations, its 4,000 visitors in two years is fewer than some porno Web sites get in a single day.

Last spring the museum asked the Conrad property owners to grant it a pricey but necessary six-month option on the property to buy time to line up some major contributors. Harris says it's the museum's last best hope. "If we can't make the numbers work, we are told, it is better to let it be torn down," Harris says. "Something is wrong with this picture." —DON OLDENBURG



Reprinted from "Preservation" magazine, July/August, '99

## **IHRS SUMMER MEET at HIGH-DIVE PARK in ELKHART**

**Saturday, August 28th, 1999**

**Ross Smith**

The Good Lord gave us a nice bright day for our Summer Meet. We visited with many friends from several states and two from Sweden, Dr. Andrus Widell and Bengt Svensson. Our visitors from overseas naturally won the "farthest miles traveled" prize which were type 201A Tubes, (live ones). The "Swap and Sell" lot was full again this year, although registration was a little lower than last year. Sixty people enjoyed the carry-in dinner with Marimba Music by talented musician Louann Heal playing for us. A delicious dinner was served by our IHRS ladies. We do believe that our Ladies are the best cooks around!

Many buyers and sellers gathered on the east lot before the announced starting time. As they say, "The Early Bird gets the ugly radio"! There was activity all morning and some real bargains available. The five category contest was well stocked with some very unique entries. Winners were selected by a peoples choice vote. WINNERS WERE:

CLASS ONE, CRYSTAL SETS: FIRST, Ross Smith with an early reproduction using a home made Loose Coupler. Plans for making the Loose Coupler were there for the public.

SECOND, Bengt Svensson with a German Post Card Radio from 1924.

CLASS TWO, Tube Sets: FIRST, Michael Feldt with a beautifully restored and playing RCA 140 Tombstone.

SECOND, (TIE), Walt Sanders with a very rare and unique Micro Radio using two hearing aid tubes and an ear piece, a pocket radio made by Micro Radio products of Peru, Indiana.

SECOND, Jack Lavelle with a beautiful four dial Ozarka battery set with a rare Ozarka Horn Speaker.

CLASS THREE, Transistor Sets: FIRST, Ross Smith with a Zenith table model T2546 with a high fidelity speaker.

SECOND, Cris Pich with a transistor radio.

CLASS FOUR, Novelty Sets: FIRST, Jack Lavelle with a MIR-RAY Radio with a restored mirror face. SECOND, Chester Michalowski with his Bicycle Radio.

CLASS FIVE, Favorite Radio Item: FIRST, Ross Smith with a Tower Ship Speaker

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(Elkhart Meet, Continued)

CLASS FIVE, (cont'd) SECOND, (tie), Andy Pich with his Favorite Radio.

SECOND, Michael Feldt with a Kohn AM-FM-SW Super Regenerative receiver.

A BIG **THANK YOU** to Terry Garl for a great job as Chairman this year, and for solving a big problem with obtaining the East parking lot. Said lot is not part of the park and it changed ownership this year. Thanks to the early setup members, Charles Miller, Doug McIntosh, Ty Gregory and Warren Robbins who did all the ground work and opened the Pavilion. A big hand of applause for our local treasurer, Clo McIntosh and for Mary Miller, Ronda Gregory, Cathy and Kelley Garl for clean up. THANKS for all of the ladies who helped with the registration at the door. ALL VOLUNTEERS WERE GREATLY APPRECIATED. THANKS too, to Marcella Shultz for chairing the Contests this year.

**The date for next year's big  
ANNUAL NORTHERN INDIANA MEET  
is Saturday, August 19, 2000. Be there!!!**

Ross Smith

(editor's comment)

Please note and accept the thanks of the entire IHRS club to Ross Smith in his role of keeping things together in the upper portion of the state as well as the other participants listed above.

I know that we all enjoy the Elkhart Meets and the friends from further north who might not always be able to come down for the Indianapolis events. Perhaps, just to balance our coverage in the state, someone could check out the resources in southern Indiana to see if there are any sites there that could enable us to have events there. The needs call for available motels and eating places \* and a host location that we could use at a reasonable rate or at no-charge. Let our president know. \* = Not needed if we have the pitch-in lunches as long as Breakfast spots are available nearby.

## Eliminating The Line Cord Resistor

by Edward Dupart

No doubt, some of you have a 1930's radio with a series string of .3 amp (filament drain) that uses a resistance line cord, and probably, the line cord is bad. I have seen many of these radios where someone has replaced the resistance line cord with a regular power cord and didn't bother with a dropping resistor for the tubes and the results were disastrous for one of the tubes when they plugged it in. Poof goes the filament! Unfortunately, resistance line cords are not easy to come by. You simply can't go to the nearest Radio Shack and buy one, besides, they probably don't even know what a resistance line cord is! A common way to fix the problem is to put a large power resistor under the chassis, but the problem here is the heat the resistor generates which limits how long the radio can be left on and, also, the space a large cool running resistor occupies. I'm always looking for ways to get around a problem and here is my solution to the resistance line cord dilemma. This will also work for replacing ballast tubes, but many of these can be repaired by opening them up and splicing the break.

In a previous article I showed how two 1N4000 series or similar power supply diodes can be used to entirely replace a 35Z5, 35W4 and/or similar tubes. We can do something similar to eliminate or reduce the value of a filament dropping resistor for the .3 amp filament series of radios using 25Z5's, 43's, 25L6's, 25Z6's, 6A7's, 6D6's, 77's, 78's, etc.. REMEMBER..DO NOT put a filter capacitor in the filament string. We are using the diode to put half wave pulsating DC to the filaments. We are taking advantage of one half cycle not producing any voltage for the filaments. Basically, the filaments are off for that one half cycle. Placing a filter capacitor in the filament string would defeat the purpose of the filaments being off for one half cycle and would provide voltage (pure DC) for both half cycles and would burn out one or more of the filaments.

For this series of radios, we do not want to replace the 25Z5, although it can be done with diodes. Rather, we want as much resistance as possible in our filament string, including pilot lights, so we want to keep the 25Z5 in the circuit. Keep in mind, the diode appears to drop about 35 volts. I am going to use an Emerson BN206 radio as my first example. The tube compliment is as follows:

(see next page)

## LINE CORD RESISTORS, - continued

25Z5, 25L6, 6D6, 6C6, one pilot light and a typical ballast resistor, L55BG in a metal can with an octal tube base. The voltage drops, resistances and power dissipation are in the table.

Notice in the table that the calculated dropping resistor consumes approximately 15 watts. I find that the resistor should be 2 or 3 times the calculated power rating for it to run fairly cool and in this case, it would be 30 to 50 watts. If you aren't aware of it, a 25 to 50 watt resistor large and space is usually at a premium in an AC/DC set. This explains why so many of these radios I see have a 10 watt resistor in them because a 10 watt resistor is small but they run hot. With the diode in the circuit, the dropping resistor has been decreased to 53.66 ohms and the resultant power drops to 4.83 watts. In this case a 10 watt resistor will suffice. A 15 or 20 watt unit would run cooler.

You will notice this radio has a pilot light and, in the actual circuit a 47 ohm part of the ballast resistor is in parallel with the light. This is so the radio will continue to work if the light burns out. Pilot lights tend to burn out in a series string radio because of the initial surge current met when the radio is first turned on. Some of you have probably noticed that the pilot light is very bright when the unit is first turned on and then dims down to the proper intensity. I could and you could put a #46 bulb in series with the filament string without the parallel resistor and it will work, but I prefer putting a resistor in parallel with the bulb, since it also acts as a surge resistor. A #46 bulb is rated at 6.3 volts at .3 amps. Here's what I did to the Emerson BN-206. For the calculated 53.66 ohms, I used a 60 ohm 10 watt resistor and a 40 ohm, 10watt resistor in parallel with the pilot light. These were parts I had in my junk box. I always use a higher value resistor in place of the calculated value for an application such as this. The radio works fine and the tubes and bulb look normal with their warm fuzzy glow that you can't get with a transistor radio. With a digital VOM in the DC position, I measured 24 V across the 25 volt tubes and 6 volts each across the 6 volt tubes and the pilot light, 86 volts from the diode to ground and 66 volts from the terminal of the dropping resistor and start of the filament string to ground.

(see graph, next page)

TUBE TYPE for Emerson BN-206	VOLTAGE DROP theoretical	RESISTANCE $R=E/I$ theoretical	WITH BALLAST	WITH DIODE theoretical
25Z5 Rectifier	25v	$25v/.3A = 83.33\Omega$		25v
25L6 AF output	25v	$25v/.3A = 83.33\Omega$		25v
6D6 RF amp	6.3v	$6.3v/.3A = 21\Omega$		6.3v
6C6 Detector	6.3v	$6.3v/.3A = 21\Omega$		6.3v
PILOT LIGHT	6.3v	$6.3v/.3A = 21\Omega$	BALLAST 47 $\Omega$ measured without pilot light	6.3v
DROPPING RESISTOR	51.1v  120v-68.9v = 51.1v	$51.1v/.3A = 170.33\Omega$  $P=EI$ $51.1v \times .3A = 15.33 \text{ WATTS}$	BALLAST 160 $\Omega$ measured	16.1v $R=E/I$ $16.1v/.3A = 53.66\Omega$  $P=EI$ $16.1v \times .3A = 4.83 \text{ WATTS}$
				35v DIODE DROP
TOTAL	120v	483.32 $\Omega$		120v

**(Editor's note: I read with interest that one of our sister clubs was preparing a story on these solutions to the rectifier and or Resistance line cord needs/problems. The first article in this series appeared in our Vol. 28, No. 1 "Spring" edition for the '99 series. Ed had his material in here in plenty of time for the #2 "Bulletin" but it was a matter of time and space. They made reference to the fact they had heard of the diode solution so Ed paved the way.) Ed deserves a vote of confidence in the work he has done for the club and for the technical articles that he does so well.**

(see next page)

## Replacing resistance line cords, continued

Another radio I applied the diode technique to was a 3 band semi-cathedral 1934 Detrola which is a cross between a 6X and a 6W. It has the power supply of a 6X and the front end of a 6W. This radio has 2 IF's and works superbly.

for Detrola 6X/6W	DROP theoretical	R=E/I theoretical	LINECORD	theoretical
25Z5 rectifier	25v	$25v / .3A = 83.33\Omega$		25v
43 AF output	25v	$25v / .3A = 83.33\Omega$		25v
75 1st AF 2nd DET	6.3v	$6.3v / .3A = 21\Omega$		6.3v
78 2nd IF	6.3v	$6.3v / .3A = 21\Omega$		6.3v
78 1st IF	6.3v	$6.3v / .3A = 21\Omega$		6.3v
6A7 CONVERTOR	6.3v	$6.3v / .3A = 21\Omega$		6.3v
PILOT LIGHT	6.3v	$6.3v / .3A = 21\Omega$		6.3v
PILOT LIGHT	6.3v	$6.3v / .3A = 21\Omega$	80Ω ACROSS BOTH LIGHTS	6.3v
DROPPING RESISTOR	32.2V  120v-87.8v = 32.2v	$32.2v / .3A = 107.33\Omega$  P=ExI $32.2v \times .3A = 9.66$ WATTS	90Ω	35v DIODE DROP
TOTAL	120v	399.99Ω		122.8v

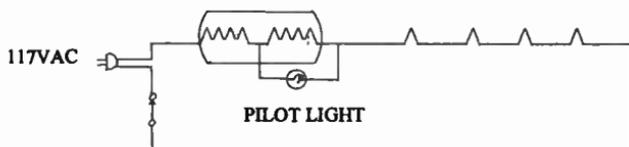
For this Detrola with its extra tubes and pilot lights, I was able to eliminate a dropping resistor altogether with the diode dropping the 32.2 volts. The filaments and pilot lights added up to 87.8 volts, which is much higher than the 4 tube TRF Emerson. The Emerson's four tubes and pilot light added up to 68.9 volts.

See next page for schematic representation.

EMERSON BN-206

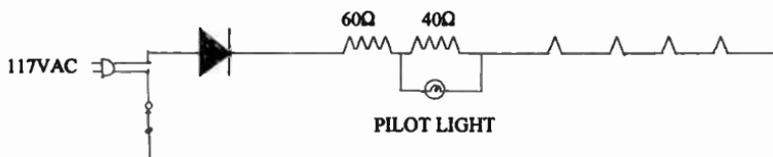
ORIGINAL SCHEMATIC

BALLAST 25Z5 25L6 6D6 6C6



MODIFIED SCHEMATIC WITH DIODE ADDED

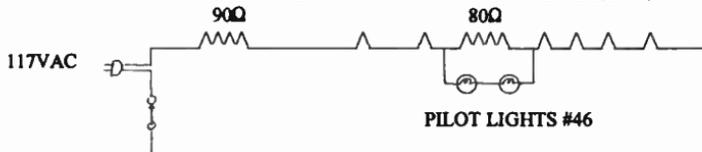
DIODE DROPPING RESISTORS 25Z5 25L6 6D6 6C6



DETROLA 6X

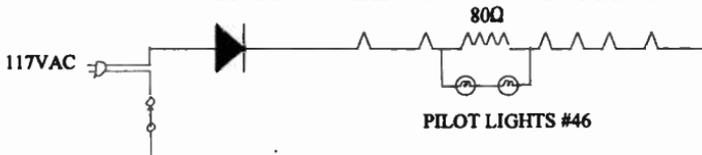
ORIGINAL SCHEMATIC

LINE CORD RESISTOR 25Z5 43 78 78 6A7 75



MODIFIED SCHEMATIC WITH DIODE ADDED

DIODE 25Z5 43 78 78 6A7 75



**REMEMBER!!!** These schematics are only partial and only show the filament portion of the circuit and in no way represents the high voltage DC part of the power supply. The added diode is strictly for the filament circuit only!

## Replacing Resistance Line Cords - continued

For the popular 5 tube radios without a pilot light, use about a 60 ohm resistor of at least 10 watts. Typical tube compliment would be a 43 or 25L6, 25Z5 or 25Z6, 6A7 or 6A8, 6D6 or 77 or 6K7, and a 75 or 6Q7. A little ohms law and you can work it for other combinations of tubes and pilot lights. Insert the diode before all resistors. And remember, no filter capacitors in the filament string!

Make sure the diodes you use can handle at least one amp and have a PIV rating of at least 300 volts. I have been using 1N4007s successfully, but the 1N5400 series would be better.

I started using diodes for dropping resistors back in the 1980's when I heard about someone who used diodes to replace the 35 volt, .15 amp series of rectifier tubes. At the same time, I was teaching a pulse circuits class and we were determining the average for a rectangular pulse and measuring it with analog and digital meters. Analog meters actually measure average AC voltages, but the scales are calculated in RMS. I thought, why not go a step further and apply this to .3 amp series string radios and eliminate line cord resistors and ballast tubes? So I began experimenting. Normally you would use .318 times peak for analog meter measurements with half wave unfiltered rectifiers and .636 x peak for full wave rectifiers, which I did. With pure resistance as a load and 120 volts as an input, I would measure about 55 volts DC at the output of the diode. When I used vacuum tubes as a load, the voltage rose to about 80-85 volts, which meant the diode appeared to drop about 35 volts and the resistance of the filaments must behave differently. Just for the fun of it, I treated the output of an unfiltered half wave rectifier as a rectangular wave to determine the average voltage, which I realize will be higher than the sine wave value. I did the following:

P.R.T. =  $1/60 = 16.6667\text{ms}$ . (This is for a 60 hz. wave)

$t_p = .5 \times \text{P.R.T.} = .5 \times 16.6667 \text{ ms} = 8.33 \text{ ms}$  (This is half of a 60hz wave).

$E_{pk} 120\text{v RMS} \times 1.414 = 169.68 \text{ v}$

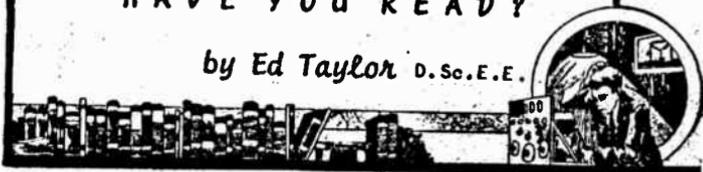
$A_p = t_p \times E_{pk} = 8.33 \text{ ms} \times 169.68\text{v} = 1,413.43\text{v/ms}$

$E_{avg} = A_p / \text{P.R.T.} = 1,413.43\text{v/ms} / 16.67 \text{ ms} = 84.79\text{v}$  avg for a rectangular wave. The sine wave value will be less, but when hooked to tubes, the measured value turns out to be about 85v DC

If you have any questions/suggestions, feel free to contact me.  
Ed Dupart. E-mail address: [dupart@ecic.cioe.com](mailto:dupart@ecic.cioe.com)

# HAVE YOU READ?

by Ed Taylor D.Sc.E.E.



W\*Y\*X\*I\*E      W\*O\*N\*D\*E\*R\*L\*A\*N\*D  
by Dick Osgood

(AN UNAUTHORIZED 50-YEAR DIARY OF WXYZ, DETROIT)

This is possibly the first comprehensive exploration into the inner workings of a broadcasting enterprise. It is not a purely local story, but covers fifty years of national radio and television history, of this single station, broadcasting AM, FM, and TV.

WXYZ was much more than the originator of *The Lone Ranger*, *The Green Hornet*, and *Sargent Preston of the Yukon*. WXYZ was the starting point for SOUPY SALES, MIKE WALLACE, DOUGLAS EDWARDS and DANNY THOMAS.

This extraordinary book traces the development of five networks and how a mail clerk became a vice president of one of them. It explains the scandal of radio payola that grew out of rigged TV quiz programs. Alcoholism is discovered to be somewhat of an occupational hazard in broadcasting.

Here are the hard business heads versus the sensitive artists in the battle for ratings.

537 Pages clothbound with 86 full page illustrations.

ISBN: 0-87972-186-3



Photographs courtesy of Ross Smith



A unique demonstration of high, medium and low frequency generators at our IHRS/AWA "Spring Fling" meet on June 4th, 1999. (non electronic too!)



Long time member, Walt Sanders can be seen at the left.

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# RADIOADS

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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.

**Wanted:** Looking for any Skylark, Imperial, LePilot, and Lyradion battery radios of the 1920's. Also seeking any Wilson and Fairbanks-Morse radios of the 1930's. If anyone has information or literature on these Indiana brand radios or if you have nice examples of these radios that I can use in illustrating future articles, please contact me.

Michael Feldt, 12035 Somerset Way East, Carmel, IN 46033  
Phone: (317) 844-0635 e-mail: feldtm@iquest.net

**For Sale:** Scott 23 tube Imperial, chassis mint, cabinet excellent, plays great, w/manual - \$2,500 or BO. Sorry, pickup only. Don Johnston, 3621 E. 700N, Windfall, IN, 46076  
Phone: (765) 945-7735

**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. (It's for sale because I don't need 3 of these.)

Also, Rock-ola "Super Rocket" model 1434 jukebox, set up for 78's. Needs restoration. \$600.00.

(see next page)

(RADIOADS, continued)

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

These items, including the McMurdo Silver, Rock-ola Juke Box, 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 maclark@iupui.edu .

FOR SALE: Radio schematics-\$2.50. Rider's radio and TV manuals, Xerox copies of service manuals, Zenith, 942 pp-\$65, Philco, 300pp-\$30, Crosley, 322pp-\$30, Atwater Kent, 463pp-\$35.00, Rider's Radio Index, 1 through 23-\$25.00. Books, SASE for list. All plus shipping. Philco cabinets, front panels, colonial clock top trim and finials, etc.. Other parts.....inquire. (Plus shipping) Dick Oliver, 28604 Schwalm Dr., Elkhart. IN 46517. (219) 522-4516

FOR SALE: Photocopies: Hallicrafters S-22, Radiola III, 18, 60, 100A, and other radio, tube, Test Equipment manuals. Also some Novelty radios. LSASE for list. WANTED: Good escutcheon for Philco 42-355 or 42-390. Herman Gross, 1705 Gordon Dr. Kokomo, IN 46902. (765) 459-8308, e-mail w9itt@juno.com

FOR SALE: Novelty radios: brunette sexy lady-\$55.00, Statue of Liberty- \$30. Shipping extra. Steve Whited, 3637 W. 71st St., Indianapolis, IN 46268. (317) 298-9967.

FOR SALE: Pocket transistor radios. Send SASE for list. Serge L Krauss, 141 Homerun Ave., Elkhart, IN 46516-5027

(see next page)

(Radio-Ads, continued)

MESSAGE: We have slowed down, but we are still making WD-11 adapters, etc., plug-in coil forms, rebuilding audio transformers and doing all of the things we have done for 21 years. James Fred, 5355 S. 275W, Cutler IN 46920. (765) 268-2214.

SERVICES: Hickok test equipment, repair and calibration. Factory authorized contact person. Wendall E. Hall, 3 Mockingbird Circle, Jeffersonville, IN 47130. Shop phone/fax, (812)256-2090, home phone, (812) 282-9709.

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### ***Addendum***

**Just as we were going to press, we received some news that you need to know.**

**You may have seen the notice in the paper that Carolyn Churchman passed on. She had given a presentation at one of our last Kokomo meets and had been a member as a result of that appearance. She had been "on the air" in radio for many years and, in more recent times, had a program on jazz on WTBU. She will be missed by many.**

**Marilyn Johnston fell and broke her femur. She is in Howard Community Hospital where she will also undergo surgery to replace her hip. You may want to send any cards etc. to their home address at 3621 East 700 North, Windfall, IN, 46076-9344. Jim Fred is in the St. Joseph's Hospital, also in Kokomo, with leg problems complicated by his diabetes. Send any cards, etc. to his home address at 5355 South 275 West, Cutler, IN 46920. Both Fred and Marilyn have been long term, loyal club members and have done much for us over the years.**

**I know that we all wish them the best and a rapid recovery and offer our prayers in their behalf.**

**Bob O'Friel, editor**

## **Coming in #4 edition of the “Bulletin”:**

**Another Mike Feldt article about a “Made In Indiana” Radio.**

**The words and music to “Little Orphan Annie”. (As had been promised.)**

**A Tube Cross Reference for the old tubes we know, need and love, but can’t find.**

**Write up on the “Fall Foliage”/Greenfield meet with pictures.**

**A surprise article about Richmond’s greatest treasure.**

**IHRS October 2nd, minutes of the meeting notes.**

**And, a lot more. Don’t forget to send in those “Radioads”**

**“Coming Events” with more details.**

**If anyone has any articles that we could publish in the “BULLETIN”, please mail it to the Editor at the address shown on page 2. This is your club and your opportunity to share your knowledge and experiences to help others. This includes expertise on matters of restoration and repairs.**