

The
Indiana
Historical
Radio Society

BULLETIN

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ELECTROLUMINESCENCE
pages 3 and 11



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Responsibilities

Activities, Business,
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Sites and Dates of Meets

Applications and correspondence
Dues, Financial, and address
change. Please notify
immediately of change of address.

News Articles, Radio Ads, Photos
for Bulletin publication
Maintain indianahistoricalradio.org

Donations & Scrapbook Material

Bulletin Deadlines: News, Articles & Radio Ads, 2/15, 5/15, 8/15, 11/15

IHRS Web site address: www.indianahistoricalradio.org

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

The BULLETIN

**A PUBLICATION OF THE INDIANA HISTORICAL RADIO SOCIETY
APPROACHING FORTY YEARS OF DOCUMENTING EARLY RADIO**

The Indiana Historical Radio Society Bulletin

December 2010

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In this issue:

Tis the season for colorful publication covers so it is fitting that Ed Taylor's contest entry, Electroluminescence, in the Old Equipment contest at the Antique Wireless Association's Annual Conference made the front of this issue of the IHRS Bulletin. The display placard informs as follows: *"Demonstration of electron flow from cathode to anode in a radio tube. (Rectifier) Mounted in a vintage NATIONAL CO, INC. ceramic socket. Originally made as an animated neon advertising sign for a model railroad layout. The unit can be programmed for 46 different chase patterns."* Ed received the Special Award in the Open category at the AWA Conference.

Two other major vintage radio events showcased an IHRS member's equipment in contests. At the Antique Radio Club of Illinois' '2010 Radiofest' Michael Feldt won first place in the 'Made in Illinois' contest category and the 'Dr. Ralph Muchow Best of Show Award' for his Silver Marshall 'Sargent-Rayment Seven' receiver. Michael stated that the Silver Marshal is a seven tube TRF receiver with five tuning stages. All of the tubes are blue Arcturus.

Michael continues to demonstrate his excellence in old equipment restoration and documentation with a 'Best of Show' for his 1936 Scott AW 23 Imperial receiver entry at the Michigan Antique Radio Club 2010 Extravaganza. Michael says he purchased the Scott at an old TV shop in Hartford City, Indiana back around 1995. The Napier front panel was recently purchased on eBay.

Museums are fun – especially if radios are involved. In this issue of the Bulletin a visit to the Indiana State Museum is described with additional comments on changes at the Antique Wireless Museum.

Fred Prohl, Editor

The Indiana Historical Radio Society 2011 Meeting Schedule

WINTER MEET

Saturday, February 12 – doors open at 8am
Lawrence Township Community Center
NEW LOCATION!!– See facing page.

SPRING MEET

April 29 & 30 – 4pm Friday – 8am Saturday
Kokomo Event Center

SUMMER MEET

Saturday, August 27 doors open at 8am
Bartholomew County Fairgrounds, Columbus

FALL MEET

Saturday, October 22 – doors open at 8am
Riley Park Shelter, Greenfield

- - - Regional Events of Interest to Members - - -

Antique Radio Club of Illinois www.antique-radios.org

Next meet – February 6, 2011. American Legion Hall, Carol Stream, IL

Michigan Antique Radio Club www.michiganantiqueradio.org

Next Meet – Farmington Hills, Michigan January 29, 2011

AWA-Antique Wireless Association www.antiquewireless.org

The original and largest historical radio group. The AWA publishes a quarterly AWA Journal. Membership is \$25 per year. Write to: Antique Wireless Association, Inc. Box 421, Bloomfield, NY 14469

We remember –

Indiana Historical Radio Society member Paul E. Allison, 77, passed away at his residence in Kokomo on November 19, 2010. Paul graduated from Purdue University. He served in the United States Navy. He worked at Delco Electronics in the advanced radio design group as an Electrical Engineer. Paul retired from Delco in 1996 with 37 years of service.

A few words about our Fall Meet in Greenfield:

The officers will remain the same for the next year:

President..... Joe Farkas

Vice President..... Alex Whitaker

Secretary/Treasurer.. Herman Gross

Ed Dupart will check out status of remaining items in the Ligonier Visitor Center, as well as checking out possible move of some items into a Museum in Elkhart.

Mike Feldt will head up a small group to reinstate the Founders Award, as well as reinvigorating the Meet contests.

The next year is the 40th year of the IHRS. Be ready for some interesting happenings throughout the year!

Joe Farkas, President IHRS

An illustration featuring a vintage radio with a large, horn-like speaker on the left. To the right of the radio, the text "Radio Greetings!" is written in a stylized font. Further right, a cartoon character with glasses and a mustache is shown holding a large sheet of paper, possibly a membership card or a letter. Below the illustration, the text "Save IHRS renewal reminder postage!" is written.

Radio Greetings!
Save IHRS renewal
reminder postage!

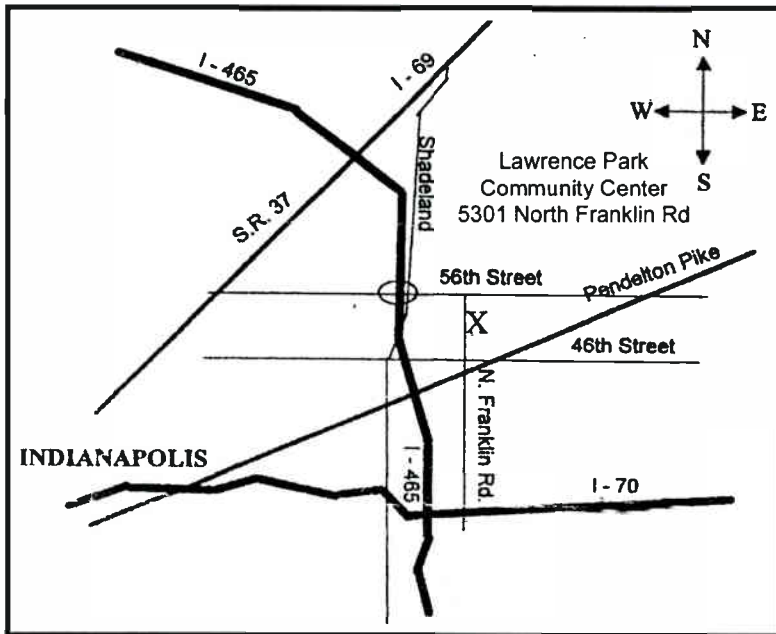
Renew your membership for 2011 now!
If the date on your mailing envelope for this issue of the Indiana Historical Radio Society Bulletin is 12/10 or earlier, it is time to renew your membership. Please send a check payable to the *Indiana Historical Radio Society* in the amount of \$15.00 per year.
Send your payment to:
Herman Gross, IHRS
1705 Gordon Drive
Kokomo, IN 46902.
Include your current mailing address, if not on your check, and your email address, if you have one. Membership questions? Contact Herman at hw144ihrs@comcast.net or call him at (765) 459-8308.

**IHRS Winter Meeting – Lawrence Park Community Center,
Lawrence, Indiana - Saturday February 12, 2011**

NOTE: THIS IS A NEW LOCATION FOR THE WINTER MEET!!!!

**Meet at the Lawrence Park Community Center,
5301 N Franklin Road, Lawrence (North East Indianapolis)**

The Lawrence Park Community Center is located just outside the North East segment of I465, Indianapolis. Exit I465 at 56th Street East or Pendleton Pike (US36) East. From 56th Street turn South on Franklin Road to the Community Center – From Pendleton Pike turn North to the Community Center.



The IHRS Winter Meet is a Swap N Sell indoor meet. The doors to the Center will open at 8:00 AM for setup and Swap N Sell.

Old Equipment "Popular Vote" Contest is open to all entries of vintage radio and radio related equipment. Tables for the display of vintage/unique electronic equipment will be available.

Silent Auction for vintage radio and related equipment donated to the IHRS.

Registration fees: Free admission. Swap table rental - \$10.00 each for IHRS members; \$15.00 each for non-IHRS members. Tables are rectangular.

Meet contacts: Fred Prohl, 812-988-1761 and
Ed Taylor, 317-638-1641

Minutes of the IHRS Fall Business Meeting, Greenfield, October 9, 2010

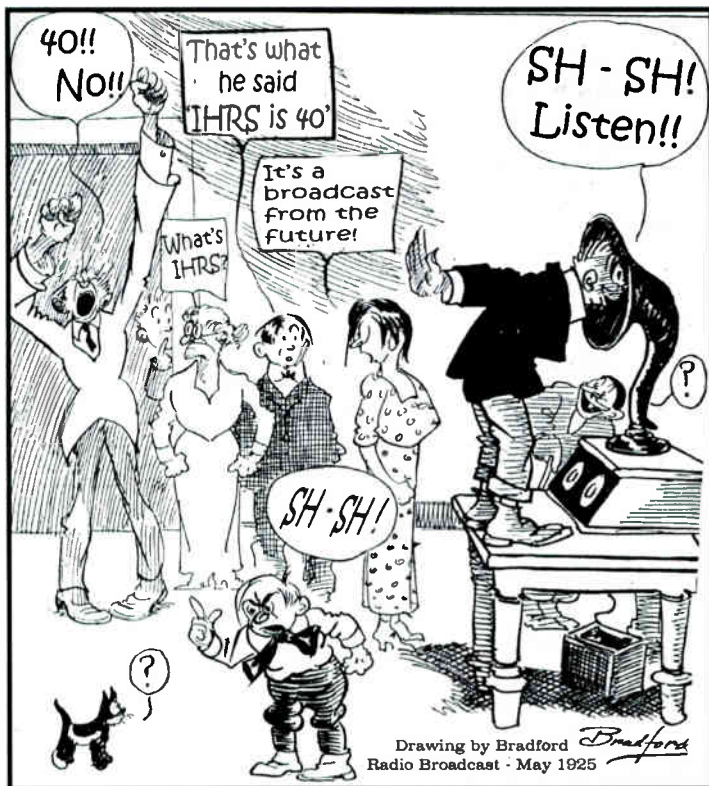
Meeting called to order by President Joe Farkas at 11:52 AM.

1. Election of Officers for 2011. Slate of officers included all current officers. Nominations from the floor were solicited with Mike Feldt offering to run if any current officer declined. Bill Smith & Alex Whitaker called to close nominations. Show of hands unanimous. Officers for 2010 are Joe Farkas president, Alex Whitaker vice president, Herman Gross secretary/treasurer, Fred Prohl editor and Dr. Ed Taylor historian.
2. President Joe Farkas recognized Bulletin editor Fred Prohl for the excellent job he has done with the Bulletin as well as the extensive work he's done organizing club meets.
3. Several issues regarding the museum conundrum were discussed. 1.) Must we alter the IHRS constitution in any way to meet the current situation at Ligonier with some of IHRS radios on display at the Visitor Center? 2.) Do we want to, or must we, contribute to museum insurance or for heating/lighting expenses? This was tabled for time being. 3.) IHRS owns the display cases. It was thought we could give them to the Visitor Center if they wanted them and/or sell them locally if not. Ed Dupart agreed to be our "local" contact for the Ligonier museum. 4.) Glenn Fitch suggested removing the radios from the Ligonier museum and auction them at an IHRS meet. If that decision is made in the future Glenn and Mike Feldt offered to arrange for transportation to a meet.
4. Fred Prohl brought up the declining participation in contesting and other meet activities in the past couple years. It was suggested that we discontinue contest categories and offer a general category with popular vote at all meets except the Spring Meet. Mike Feldt offered to head contest judging with help from Fred Prohl. The Founders Best of Show award would be awarded at the Spring Meet with the current officers determining the recipient.
5. A discussion on the Columbus meet ensued. Participation this year was disappointing. Ed Dupart felt we should offer a meet in southern IN to accommodate IN, KY. & OH participants. Mike Felt offered Richmond as a possible venue in place of Columbus. Membership demographics was discussed and many agreed they were sparse in those localities. It was also agreed to continue the Columbus venue but alter meet dates by a week or two to even out the time interval between meets with an eye to encourage participation. Alex Whitaker suggested the Spring Meet be offered later in May. Herman Gross will contact the Kokomo Event Center to determine what dates are available in 2011. It was moved that the Columbus Meet be held at the end of August and schedule the Fall Meet at Greenfield the third Saturday of October which is October 15th. Glenn Fitch agreed to reserve the Riley Park facility for that date if possible. President Joe Farkas closed the meeting at 12:24 PM. *Herman Gross, Secretary, IHRS*

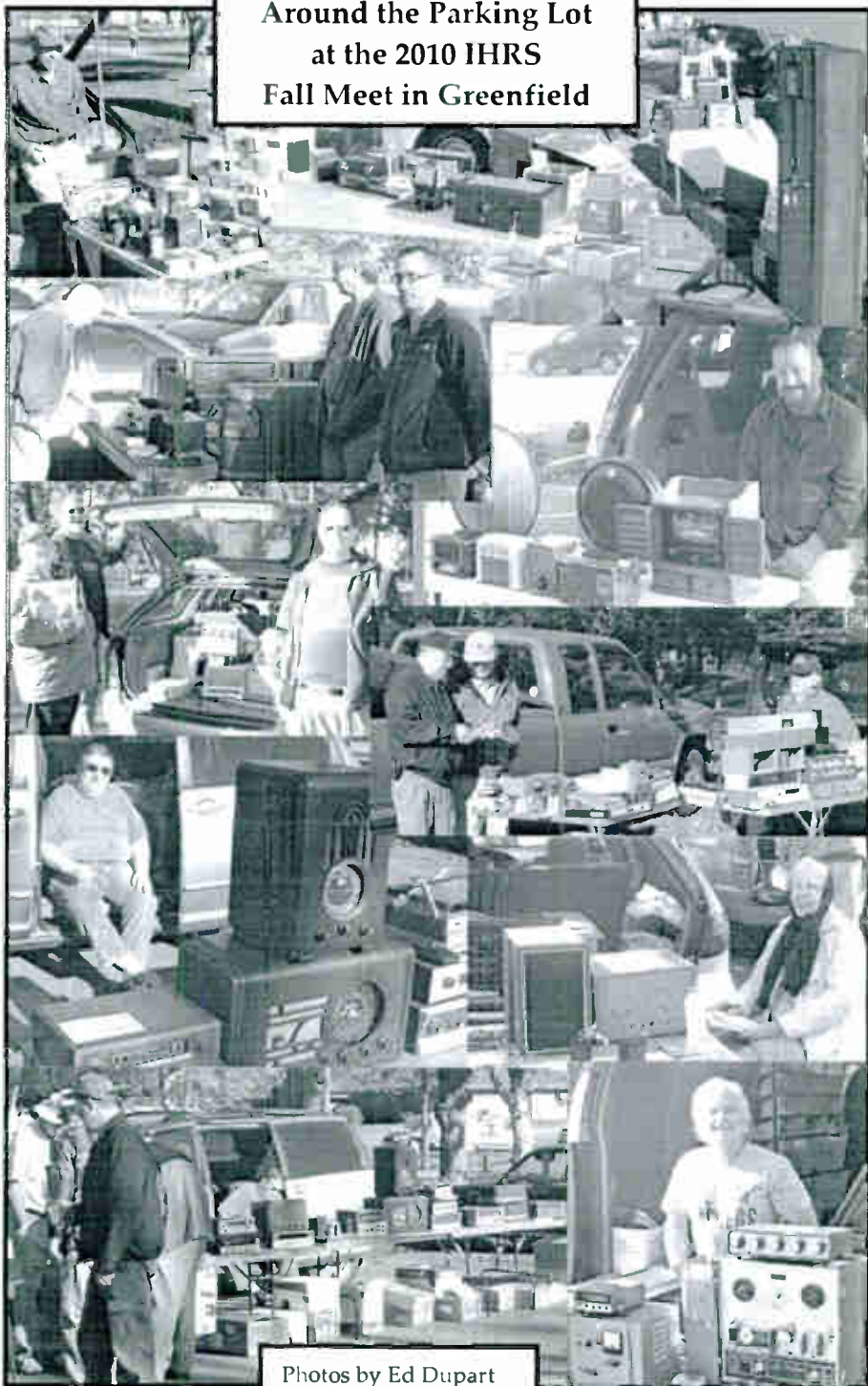
Restoring your latest radio find? Show it off at an IHRS meet and in the Bulletin!



Keep a photo record and log of the restoration experience for publication. Bulletin readers are interested in the "How to restore the radio" along with "How you got it", and "Why you got it". The 2011 IHRS "Old Equipment" contest for the Winter, Summer, and Fall Meets will be a single category "Open" to any radio or vintage radio related equipment. Contest judging for these three meets will be by Popular Vote. The Spring meet in Kokomo will be a multiple category contest, judged by selected IHRS members. The Spring Meet contest categories will be listed in the Spring Bulletin.



**Around the Parking Lot
at the 2010 IHRS
Fall Meet in Greenfield**



Photos by Ed Dupart

On display at the IHRS Fall Meet in Greenfield.



above – a Remler presented by Jerry Heuber
This rare set is the result of many years searching for the right parts.



Above – a Personal Pocket radio, displayed by Ed Dupart



Left - a Sparton table radio displayed by Michael Feldt



above - Steve Geary shows off his craftsmanship with a "25L6G Stereo Amplifier" of his own design and construction.



above and left - a Zenith "Consol Tone" fully restored by Russell Starkey



above right – Ed Dupart's restored "Basket Case Zenith" (see the June 2010 IHRS Bulletin for restoration details)



Indiana Historical Radio Society members receive top awards for contest entries at major meets in 2010.

Ed Taylor received the Special award for his Electroluminescence Display in the Old Equipment Contest Open Category at the 2010 Antique Wireless Association annual



Michael Feldt won first place in the Made in Illinois contest category and the 'Dr. Ralph Muchow Best of Show Award' for his Silver Marshall 'Sargent-Rayment Seven' receiver at ARCI's "Radiofest - 2010 in Chicago.

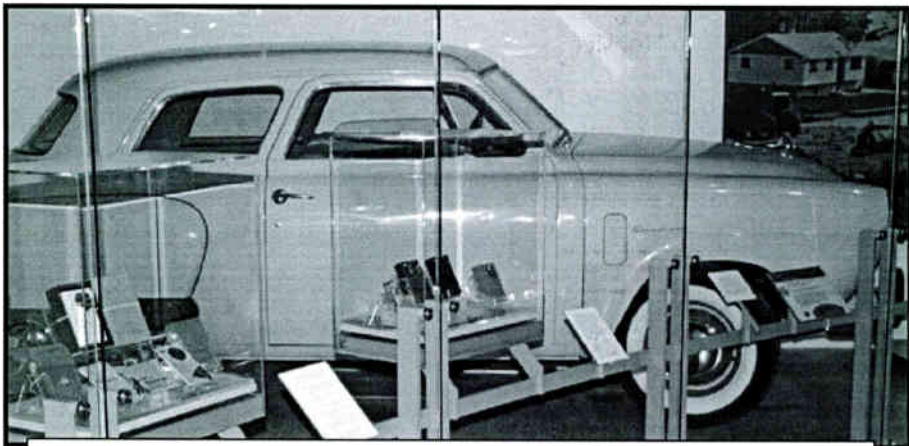


Michael Feldt won 'Best of Show' for his 1936 Scott AW 23 'Imperial' at MARC's 'Extravaganza 2010 in Lansing, Michigan.

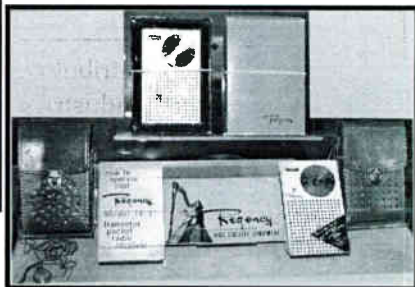
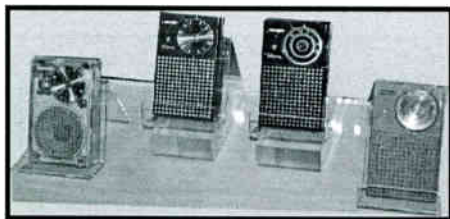
Indiana Radio and the Indiana State Museum

Fred Prohl

Visiting a museum for this married couple of forty five years usually requires something of interest for both of us. So when the Indiana State Museum advertised a unique display of a Crocheted Coral Reef coincided with my wish to take a look at a display of Indiana Radio we made the trip in early October. The fine day included most of the museum with lunch at the L. S. Ayres Tea Room. We first sought out the Coral Reef – a colorful display of fiber art. It was worth the trip in itself. We then worked our way through Indiana related displays such as the Ancient Seas, Birth of the Earth, Crossroads of America, the Hoosier Way, the Native Americans and so on with Enterprise America and Global Indiana grabbing my closest attention. What follows is a sample of what you will see related to Indiana Radio when you make your visit.



Regency's TR1 on display with a Studebaker as background. The TR1's on display are from the collection of IHRS member Bret Phillips. Bret displayed many of the same radios at the 2004 IHRS Spring Meet in Kokomo – celebrating the TR1 at fifty years. The clear cased TR1 at the left in the below picture is one of three prototypes for the Pocket Radio.



The appearance of an Atwater Kent battery set and horn speaker in the Enterprise Indiana display shook my confidence on the display expertise until I read the information card: "Radio receiver and horn speaker, c. 1927, owned by Indiana Broadcast Pioneers Hall of Fame inductee Harry Martin (aka Harry Modlen). Martin and his wife, Marion, began the state wide Rural Radio Network in 1972 to bring agricultural news to Hoosier listeners."



Indiana – Contributing to America’s War Machine
---- Farnsworth Industries in Fort Wayne shifts from
manufacturing commercial radios to military communications
equipment ----

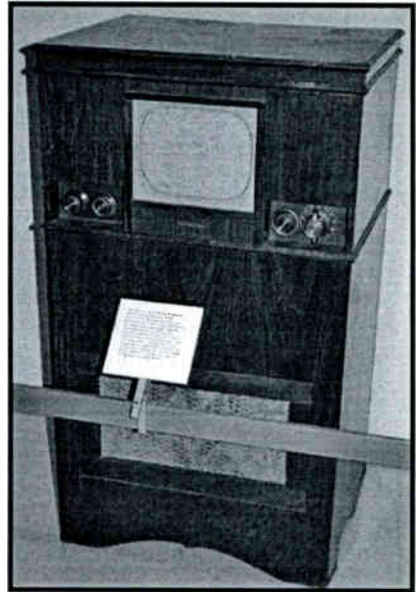
Indiana Radio and the Indiana State Museum continued



Indianapolis newsman Gilbert Forbes was one of only six independent newsmen to receive official correspondent's credentials from the Office of War Information during WWII. The microphone on the left was used by Forbes while at WFBM during the 1940's.
(Indiana State Museum placard.)

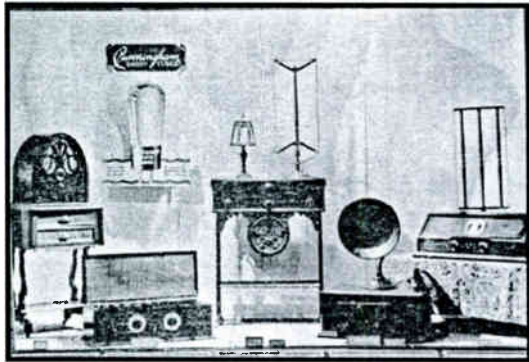
On the right - described as possibly Indiana's oldest commercial television set, this RCA Victor model 630 was built from a kit by William McCullough at RCA's Indianapolis works in 1948.

Below - on display at the Indiana State Museum, a television camera from WFBM-TV



The preceding is a sample of communications equipment on display at the Indiana Sate Museum. When you visit the museum you will also find on display scanning disc television, a rotary gap spark transmitter, a "space age" styled TV manufactured in Indiana, the beginnings of the RCA CT-100 (color television) tube, and much more. Consistent with the rest of the museum, the "Enterprise America" and "Global Indiana" displays are designed to show the socio-economic conditions and personalities associated with early electronic communications in Indiana as well as the associated equipment.

In 1973, as an organization two years young, the Indiana Historical Radio Society worked with the Indiana State Museum to establish a vintage radio display. It was a fun project (I had a made in Marion, Indiana "Indiana Hyperdyne" on display.) The March 1973 IHRS Bulletin front and back covers picture the display entrance and one of the "Radio Store" display cases.



While the 1973 display was well presented, and appreciated, the current show of Indiana electronic communications is much more inclusive of all aspects of the media. Go see it – it is an enlightening experience. However, you will ask, I'm sure, what about Lyradion, Diamond T, Meck, Cage, Orchestrion, ELMCO and all the other manufactures of radio and communications equipment in Indiana along with the many personalities not currently presented?" More than likely the reality of space limits the current display. Wouldn't it be great to have a permanent display that includes all Indiana radio from the early 1920's to the present?

Fred Prohl

More on Harry Martin (re: page 13)

Fred Prohl, editor

Harry and Marion have been members of the Indiana Historical Radio Society for many years. I was aware their mailing address changed from Indiana to Florida a number of years ago but a check of the recent IHRS membership list did not show them as current members. On November 26, 2006 the Brownfield Hall of Fame web site posted the following on Harry:

"Harry Martin was born Harold Modlin in 1917 on a small farm in Henry County, Indiana.

Encouraged by his broadcasting instructor, Harold dropped out of college to join WLBC, Muncie, Indiana. In addition to news and announcing he was assigned the station's farm programs. He and Marian were married in 1941. They were blessed with four children, Judy, Debbie, Dan and Belinda.

After 9 months in the Army Signal Corps, Harold was medically discharged. He rushed to Indianapolis to audition at WFBM. The manager hired him but changed his name. "Harry Martin" was born July 23rd, 1943. He announced and did news, including 7 years as Indiana reporter for CBS news. When WFBM farm director Henry Wood retired, Harry Martin succeeded him. He joined NAFB in 1946 and was a member, voting or emeritus, for 59 years. One of his many honors was being named NAFB Farm Broadcaster of the Year in 1983, winning a trip to Switzerland.

WFBM-TV was the first station in Indiana and in 1949 Harry Martin became a pioneer, delivering the first live demonstration commercial on TV. Purina moved from radio to television with Harry and 65 Purina dealers continued to sponsor a noon program for 26 years. International Harvester was another sponsor. Harry was the spokesman for E-Z-Bake, hosted "Sunday on the Farm" and was the weatherman on Sunday night news. At peak, Harry had 62 radio and television shows a week. His 40th Anniversary on the stations was celebrated on WFMB-TV.

Harry and Marian founded Rural Radio Network in 1972 as co-owners, supplying farm programs from their home in New Palestine, Indiana. The network grew with the addition of son Dan Modlin and Ned Arthur to reach every corner of Indiana with 56 radio stations. Ned, a farm neighbor, became the Martin's son-in-law, marrying Belinda.

Harry died at age 88 on Dec. 2, 2005. He was already in the Indiana Broadcasters Hall of Fame."

The Indiana Historical Radio Society and the Antique Wireless Association

Prior to 1971 members of the Antique Wireless Association (AWA) living in Indiana on occasion met to socialize and swap radio equipment. From these casual meetings developed the wish for a formal Indiana organization. In October of 1971, with the support of the AWA, thirteen AWA members established the Indiana Historical Radio Society. It is fitting that the year 2011 will be a celebration year for the Indiana Historical Radio Society – forty years of continuing the tradition of the AWA with Indiana local events dedicated to documenting and preserving radio history. As indicated on previous pages of this Bulletin the IHRS has a rich past in displaying vintage radio at museums and local events. As the granddaddy of historical radio organizations, The Antique Wireless Association leads the world with "Preserving Radio" for future generations with a museum in Bloomfield, NY. (A must see destination for all vintage radio enthusiasts.) A recent donation of land and buildings (in Bloomfield, NY) has allowed the AWA to lay plans for the "AWA Antique Wireless Museum & Research Campus". If you are an AWA member you recently received a mailing describing the plans for the new museum and a request for donations to support the effort. The mailing describes in detail "A fitting, flexible showcase for the world's largest, most comprehensive 'radio' treasure trove." If you are not an AWA member you can go online to www.antiquewirelessmuseum.com to view the plans for the new museum, donate if you wish, and perhaps join the association. Antique Wireless Association membership dues are \$25.00 per year. Send your check, payable to AWA, to AWA Membership, P.O. Box 421, Bloomfield, NY, 74469-0421



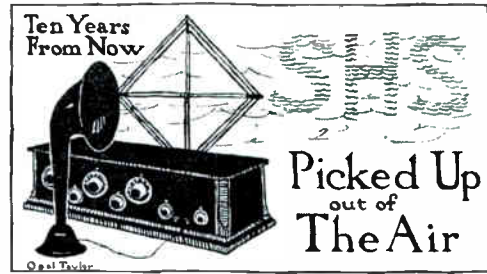
A drawing of the proposed entrance to the new AWA Antique Wireless Museum in Bloomfield, NY

-1925 DXing -

"Picked Up Out Of the Air"

by William C. Otto, Associate Editor, Shortridge Daily Echo – Christmas 1925

This student/author of Shortridge High School's (Indianapolis) newspaper writes about received



station's programming and his classmate's future with radio. What follows are excerpts from the article, concentrating on the stations received in Indianapolis during 1925, skipping lengthy references to classmates.

- *"Well, folks, what do you say to a little fun with the new Christmas radio? It might be interesting to see what is happening throughout the country this Christmas Eve."*

- *the host adjusted the aerial and pulled out the battery switch. "Here we are, how lucky!" - "This is station WLW at Cincinnati. You have just heard Miss Corya talking to the children.*

- *turned the dial slightly and, as if by magic, the room was filled with the strains of "Silent Night." "Station KDKA, the pioneer broadcasting station of the world."*

- *Again the dials were manipulated. A rhythmic beat of a drum and tom-tom were heard – from Miami Beach.*

- *Once more the radio was tuned, this time connecting the party by air with a New York station. "The play that you have just been listening to was broadcast by remote control from Boston. – WEAJ will now sign off at 10:08."*

- *Another dance program had been tuned in from Denver, and the announcer was just signing off at 11:45.*

Editor

The family of Walt Sanders has contacted IHRS with expressed desire to donate a large portion of Walt's antique radio and parts collection to the club. This will be a large undertaking for the club. It is estimated that there is enough items there to completely load a good sized van, maybe two. Right now we are working out the logistics and time table in order to acquire the collection and transported it to the Spring meet just before it starts where it will all be sold, one way or another. What the club needs right now are members who would like to help in the loading, transporting and unloading of this collection. If you would like to help, please contact Michael Feldt at 317 844-0635 or email: feldtm@msn.com. A situation like this doesn't happen very often, for this club, so we need all the help we can get.



For Sale: Radios, crystal sets, many headphones, test equipment, and tubes from the J. Wisthoff collection. Partial list includes 4 slide tuning receivers, Aeriola Jr., Areiola Sr, Crosley 50, Radiola III, Deforest, DT-600 "Everyman", British Thompson Houston wireless, the list of about 40 headphones includes Spitfire, Newcomb, WE, Sterling, N&K, American Bell. There is a large selection of 20's and 30's tubes. Will sell the collection by the piece or the entire lot.

(A Waters/Conley "Phonola" child's phonograph is also available.)
Joyce Wisthoff 219-663-4394 (9/10)

Information wanted: I am researching the first generation Delco farm radios (Models RA-3 & RB-3 and the unique dynamotor called the Electrifier.) designed to run from the 32 Volt Delco light plants. These sets are fully documented in the United Motors service manual but I have yet to find ANY advertising related to these particular radios and the Electrifier... I have the RA-3 and Electrifier and always want to properly document these artifacts for posterity....

Any information would be greatly appreciated. kd4hsh@juno.com
For pictures go to: http://kd4hsh.homestead.com/delco_RA-3_1.html
Robert Lozier, Monroe, NC (9/10)

For Sale: REPRODUCTION RADIO BATTERIES: I've developed replica battery solutions for most tube and transistor radios--batteries that have not been available for nearly thirty years. They look, they feel and they work--just like the originals! Plus, they are a reusable resource. Inside are holders for AA, C, D and 9-volt batteries. When the batteries wear out, simply remove them and install new ones. Contact Bill Morris at batterymaker@gmail.com or at 317-895-1334. 03/10

For Sale: Reproduction cabinet parts (wood). In stock parts; front panels, rear arch supports, base molding, for Philco models 20,21,70,90 (others per sample). Philco Colonial Clock top trim including finials, Grandfather Clock finials for Philco 570, GE H-91, Crosley 124 (others per sample). Almost any wood part available per sample, any make or model (per quote) (tooling charge may apply). Dick Oliver c/o Antique Radio Service, 1725 Juniper Place #310, Goshen, In. 46526. Ph. (574) 537-3747, e-mail- dolivears@aol.com 03/10

Interested in TV history? Want to see how it started? Try this Web site. www.televisionexperimenters.com You'll be amazed how far we've come.
Pete Yanczer, 635 Bricken Place, Warson Woods, MO 63122-1613 03/10

Microphones on display at the Indiana State Museum



Left - Station owner/operator Don Burton employed this microphone at WLBC Muncie c. 1930



Above - c. 1960 Ribbon Microphone WBAA - AM (Purdue University)



Above - c. 1940's microphone used by Gilbert Forbes, news anchorman for WFBM, Indianapolis