



ARCI NEWS

www.antique-radios.org

Affiliated AWA
Antique Wireless Association 

Volume 38, Issue 1
February, 2019



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!!
REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR ARCI MEMBERSHIP

UPCOMING INDOOR MEET FEBRUARY 24, 2019

AMERICAN LEGION HALL

570 South Gary Avenue, Carol Stream, IL

February 24, 2019

7AM – 11AM

**Peoples' Choice Contest: Award For Winner
Business Meeting 9:30 am**

FREE COFFEE AND DONUTS!



2019 ARCI MEET SCHEDULE

February 24, 2019	7AM-9:30AM Indoor Swap Meet People's Choice Contest, Officers' Meeting 9AM	American Legion Hall Carol Stream, IL (See Map)
April 28, 2019	7AM-11AM Outdoor Swap Meet Inside Business Meeting 9:30AM	American Legion Hall Carol Stream, IL (See Map)
June 16, 2019	Outdoor - Gates Open 7AM Combined Meet With 6-Meter Club of Chicago	DuPage County Fairgrounds Wheaton, IL (See Advance Ticket Form & Map)
August 2-3, 2019	RADIOFEST	Medinah Shriners / Addison, IL
October 6, 2019	7AM-11AM Outdoor Swap Meet Business Mtg./Officer Election 10AM	American Legion Hall Carol Stream, IL (See Map)
December 8, 2019	7AM-11AM Indoor Swap Meet Business Meeting 10AM	American Legion Hall Carol Stream, IL (See Map)



ARCI

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS



PLEASE CIRCLE YOUR MEMBERSHIP:

<i>Membership Option</i>	<i>Dues</i>	<i>Benefits</i>
Annual Membership	\$ 25	Full benefits: <i>ARCI News</i> subscription, Fee Discounts At Events, Seller Privileges at ARCI Events.
Spousal Annual Membership	\$ 10	Discounts at Events.
Student Annual Membership	\$ 5	Must Be 18 or Under, Full Benefits.
Lifetime Membership	\$340	Full Membership Benefits For Life (non-transferable).

MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO ARCI AND SEND TO:

Antique Radio Club of Illinois
P.O. Box 1139
LaGrange Park, Illinois 60526

EMAIL DELIVERY OF ARCI NEWS? YES OR NO (CIRCLE ONE)

PRINT DELIVERY OF ARCI NEWS? YES OR NO (CIRCLE ONE)

Name: _____

Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____ Application Date: _____

Email: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Phone: _____

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings and happy 2019 to all our ARCI members and friends. While the sub-zero cold weather has been quite a challenge this winter, isn't it great we can retreat into our comfy radio collections and the warmth of glowing vacuum tubes? Collecting is truly an activity that we can enjoy during all seasons.

ARCI enjoyed another terrific year in 2018 with a string of successful regional meets and a very memorable *Radiofest 2018*. The club continues to be financially sound and boasts an active membership of 230 with 11 holding life memberships. Our ongoing success is the result of dedicated staff, volunteers, and ARCI members-at-large that enjoy collecting and supporting this club with its long history of promoting the hobby. I want to thank all of the officers and board members that agreed to serve for another one-year term at our December 2018 meet. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Even though 2018 is barely behind us, our *Radiofest 2019* staff is already making plans for our big event in August. Our two-day event last year (eliminating Sunday morning) was very well received; and so, we will continue that format this year. *Radiofest 2019* will, once again, be held at the Shriners Facility located in Addison, Illinois with the adjacent Hilton Garden Inn providing overnight accommodations. We were able to negotiate our usual early-August time frame with the Shriners and the hotel so that the *Radiofest 2019* dates are Friday, August 2nd and Saturday, August 3rd. Part of the planning process includes reviewing input received from attendees and staff from previous *Radiofests* in an effort to make improvements where needed. We want *Radiofest 2019* to be an enjoyable and memorable experience for all.

The *Radiofest 2019* theme is ART DECO AND MACHINE AGE ELECTRONICS. For more *Radiofest 2019* details, see the "RADIOFEST 2019 PLANNING UPDATE" in this issue of *ARCI NEWS*.

Art Bilski, ARCI's Public Relations Director for the past 20 years, has decided that it is time to move out of the Midwest and settle down in Florida. (I don't believe the winter weather is the only reason he decided to move, but I am sure it influenced his decision!). His current plan is to move within the next few months, and so he will miss *Radiofest 2019*. He says that it will be the first *Radiofest* he has missed since the late 1980s. Now that's dedication! If you have ever contacted the club with information on radio-related items or events, chances are good that you worked with Art. He is now assisting us in transitioning his duties. On behalf of ARCI, I want to wish Art and his family all the best and a big THANK YOU for all that he has done to promote and grow the club! Art can continue to be reached at art@myantiqueradio.com.

As always, we really want to hear your thoughts and suggestions about all aspects of the club. Your feedback is most important because we each have a unique perspective on the club and what elements might be incorporated for improvement. Volunteer a little of your time to help out at our meets or serve a term as an officer to help insure ARCI's future. New volunteers with new ideas and energy are always welcome! Feel free to talk with me at club events or e-mail me at smuchow@att.net.

Remember, ARCI is your club! So please let me know if you have any ideas or suggestions for activities or events that you would like us to consider for 2019. You can email ARCI's website address clubinfo@antique-radios.org or you can email me directly at smuchow@att.net.

*See You At The Next Meet,
Steve Muchow
ARCI PRESIDENT*

ARCI UPDATE

The Presiden's Column -- All The News That's Fit To Print

UPCOMING BUSINESS MEETING FEBRUARY 24, 2019

We strongly urge all interested members, Officers and Board members to attend the upcoming business meeting. WE NEED YOU!!! New blood is needed to preserve the vitality and innovation of one of the best radio collecting clubs in the country. Planning for Radiofest 2019 is already underway. ARCI is your club!! Please plan to participate and lend a hand! See you at the meeting!!

PEOPLES CHOICE CONTEST RETURNS FEBRUARY 24, 2019

ARCI is bringing back the popular PEOPLES CHOICE CONTEST at the February 24th meet! Do you have a favorite historical radio or other related item that you would like to show fellow collectors? Display it for others to see at our February meet. Each displayed item will be assigned a form and the attendees will vote on the item that impresses them the most. This is an "open" category and the owner of the "winning" item will receive a complimentary ARCI 2019 Membership Renewal! One item per person, please.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Remember to send in your membership dues for 2019. Dues remain unchanged from 2018 and will continue at \$25 per year and \$340 Lifetime. Please see the enclosed form. We apologize for any confusion stemming from the December issue of ARCI NEWS which included an old membership form.

OFFICERS FOR 2019

ARCI will hold its annual business meeting and officer elections at the December meet. The following people are nominated to serve another year:

Officers

Steve Muchow, President, Jim Novak, Vice President
Keith Schreiter, Secretary/Membership, Rudy Hecker, Treasurer

Board of Directors

Dr. Barry Janov, Chairman, David Bart, Art Bilski, Harry Blesy, Ed Huether, Tom Kleinschmidt, Steve Muchow, Robert Piekarcz, Olin Shuler, John Stone, Jeff Aulik

VOLUNTEERS FOR 2019

ARCI has been fortunate to have a great team of volunteers over the years who have faithfully and generously served the club. They deserve your thanks and recognition for all the support they provided. Remember, ARCI is your club and we need your help too! As we all pitch-in, the club will continue to improve for everyone's benefit. Please talk with one of the officers, Board Members or current volunteers for more information on how you can lend a hand. ARCI looks forward to working with the following during the upcoming year.

Nicholas Tillich, <i>Radiofest</i> Auction Coordinator	John Stone, <i>Radiofest</i> Auction Coordinator
Jim Sargent, <i>Radiofest</i> Auctioneer	Jim Novak, WA9RCI Ham Radio Station
Tom Kleinschmidt, Bill Cohn, Donation Auction	Ron Grams, WB9IMR, Trustee of FCC Ed & License WA9RCI
Ed & Judy Huether, <i>Radiofest</i> Coordinators	Rudy Hecker, Signage, People's Choice Contest
Elaine Hecker, Registration	Jim Rajkovic, Webmaster
Art Bilski, Public Relations	Cindy Fudge, <i>ARCI Newsletter</i> Publisher
Julia & David Bart, <i>ARCI Newsletter</i> Editors	Karl Johnson & Pete Nauseda, Parking and Information
Dan Schoo, ARCI Photographer	

HEALTH & WELFARE



Frank Estis

It is with great sadness that ARCI announces the passing of Frank Estis. Frank passed away at his home in McHenry, Illinois on October 25, 2018. Frank was a WWII veteran of the United States Navy. He served on the fleet oiler USS Atascosa (AO-66) during his service from 1942-1946. Frank was also a General Class amateur radio operator (W9AKN) and a life-long member of the VFW. He was preceded in death by his wife of 70 years, Leona, on May 31, 2018. Private services were held in McHenry. Frank was 92 years old.

DECEMBER 9, 2018 SWAPMEET REPORT

There was a nice turnout of collectors at the annual December Janet LaVelle Holiday Party with free hot coffee and cookies available in memory of Janet (our "cookie lady"). There were 17 sellers' tables containing a variety of antique radios, vintage Hi-Fi, test equipment and related items. Maybe you purchased a holiday gift to give yourself or someone special! Truly, each swap meet is unique and worth the trip since you just never know what treasure may pop up. The meets are also great opportunities to catch up on news with your fellow collectors. The donation auction continues to be a crowd-pleaser and December's raised \$147 for the club. Thanks to all who support this worthwhile event!

Following the donation auction, we held a business meeting to elect the 2019 slate of officers and to continue planning for *Radiofest 2019*. Please remember that all are invited and encouraged to attend business meetings. Your input is always welcome!

We hope to see you at the next meet to be held on February 24, 2019 in Carol Stream. In addition to the special People's Choice Contest, spend the morning selling, buying, swapping and plan to attend the business meeting afterward.



I WANT YOU TO VOLUNTEER WITH ARCI !!

We Need Your Help To Run Your Club!!

- ARCI News – Authors, Contributors
 - Radiofest – Volunteers
 - Local Meets – Volunteers
 - Radiofest Staff – Auction, Registration
 - Radiofest Hospitality Tent – Donors, Staff
- Earn your stripes today!**

*Please Contact Your Board Members & Club Officers
Steve Muchow, ARCI President
smuchow@att.net*

THANK YOU TO ART BILSKI

Many thanks go out to Art Bilski for his years of service to ARCI. Art and his family have been involved for decades, going back to the early Elgin days in the 1980s, and onward. As the long-time Publicity Director, Art wrote articles for *ARCI News* and *Antique Radio Classified*; maintained public relations contacts with local radio, television, and newspapers on behalf of ARCI; managed the ARCI website; handled calls and inquiries; collected donations and helped run the junker auctions; helped run the main auction; served as a former ARCI President and subsequently a long-time Board Member; and, generally contributed his hard work and cheerful efforts to the club. Art's wife Abigail also pitched in and produced many of the ARCI promotional items given out over the years. We will miss Art, Abigail, and the whole clan when they move to Florida. We hope he can visit Illinois occasionally, and still join us at ARCI events. Many thanks Art!!

For all his efforts, we wanted to include a photo, but when we searched online for Art and *Radiofest*, we could not believe what surfaced:



Thankfully, we hunted around and found a nice picture of Art in action at an ARCI auction a few years ago. Art, we hope we send you to Florida with a jolly laugh. Thanks for the memories!!



Art Bilski, ARCI Publicity Director and Former President.

RADIOFEST 2019 PLANNING UPDATE

By Steve Muchow, ARCI President

Radiofest 2019 **Friday August 2 -- Saturday August 3** **Medinah Shriners** **550 N. Shriners Drive • Addison, IL 60101**

Radiofest 2019 will again be held at the Medinah Shriners' location in Addison, Illinois with the adjacent Hilton Garden Inn providing overnight accommodations. We are very fortunate to return and enjoy these fine facilities. The Medinah Shriners is located at the junction of I-355 and Army Trail Road in Addison. This is a very convenient location that can be easily accessed from all directions within the entire Chicago area. See the map below for location details.

Building on the tremendous success of *Radiofest 2018*, we are enthusiastically putting together the activities for *Radiofest 2019*. The theme for *Radiofest 2019* is "ART DECO AND MACHINE AGE ELECTRONICS". The two-day schedule of events will be very similar to last year. Be sure to reserve the dates shown above on your calendar for *Radiofest 2019*!

Just like 2018, we will start the action with our Friday night auction, followed on Saturday morning by the swap meet through mid-afternoon. The swap meet will again be located in its own large parking lot at the west end of the facility. There will be plenty of seller spaces available with lots of room between rows for maneuvering a small truck or a vehicle with a trailer. The sellers' lot is also totally out of the main traffic flow, which is good for those walking around the swap meet. The pavement will be marked with parking spaces and continues to be in excellent physical condition. Directly adjacent to the sellers' lot is the main parking lot, with over 170 spaces available for buyers and visitors. It is an easy walk from one lot to the other, with plenty of spaces available. This parking layout is well suited for *Radiofest*!

We will again feature our speakers' programs, contest, and display during the day on Saturday. And, of course, we will also have our popular appraisal tent and the outdoor ham station with special ARCI club call letters WA9RCI. The usual donation auction will be held later in the afternoon. Keep in mind that you may purchase donated items throughout the day without having to wait for the actual donation auction. Either way, your purchase will likely be a bargain! The awards dinner event will be held Saturday night.

The indoor facilities of the Shriner's building are just as impressive as the outside: modern, beautifully maintained, and very spacious. We will only use part of the ballroom and still have plenty of space for the auction and banquets, along with an adjacent space for our equipment display and contest areas. Again, we will be using one of the large "classroom" spaces for our speaker presentations, which are located right down the hall from the ballroom.

Again, our official hotel for Radiofest 2019 is the Hilton Garden Inn, located directly adjacent to the Medinah Shriners complex, and a very short walk from the banquet facilities and parking lots. Medinah Shriners and Hilton Garden Inn are completely independent entities, but they coordinate closely on events. Our contact at Shriners again helped us negotiate a really great price with the hotel at a rate of \$99 per night. This is a really nice hotel at a great price. You will not be disappointed!

<p><i>RADIOFEST</i> Medinah Shriners 550 Shriners Drive Addison, IL 60101 (630)-458-0200</p>	<p>HOTEL Hilton Garden Inn Addison 551 N Swift Road Addison, IL 60101 hiltongardeninn3.hilton.com (630) 691-0500</p>
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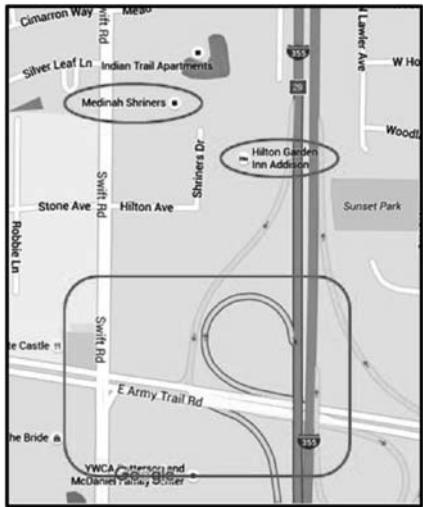
We have secured a block of rooms at the Hilton Garden Inn and reservations for the hotel are now open! You can go to the online reservation system, which has been set up exclusively for Radiofest reservations, at this web site:

https://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/C/CHIAHGI-RADIO-20190801/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

Or, you can call the hotel at: 630-691-0500. Mention Radiofest to the friendly reservation agent to get the special discount rate. Note: This discount rate is valid for reservations made before July 19th.

Watch for additional Radiofest 2019 information in future editions of the ARCI NEWS, Radiofest mailings and our ARCI web site www.antique-radios.org. With our wonderful location and our dedicated team of ARCI volunteers, you can understand why we are enthusiastic as we plan for our largest event. So, mark your calendars and start making plans to attend! Please feel free to contact me at smuchow@att.net should you have any questions, comments, or suggestions.

LOCATION OF RADIOFEST 2019.



RADIOFEST

August 2 and August 3rd, 2019



SIGN UP NOW!

Event: Medinah Shriners ~ 550 N. Shriners Dr. Addison, IL 60101

Hotel: Hilton Garden Inn ~ 551 North Swift Rd., Addison, IL 60101

Hotel Reservations: (630) 691-0500

*All hotel reservations must be made directly with the Hilton Garden Inn
Discounted Hotel rates for ARCI members (before July 19th) begin at \$99.00*

RADIOFEST Will Feature a Large Radio Swap Meet, Radio Contest, Informational Presentations, Appraisal Tent & Auctions. Our Banquet also returns with great food, entertainment, and awards. Events and Schedule subject to change. Watch our website for updates at: www.antique-radios.org

All sellers must be members of ARCI - NO ADMISSION CHARGE FOR NON-SELLERS

ARCI Membership (\$25.00)

(If not currently a member) \$ _____

First Selling Space \$ _____

\$45.00 Pre-Registration

\$50.00 On Site Registration

Additional Spaces

\$25.00 Each Pre-Registration

\$35.00 Each On Site Registration

_____ times \$25.00 or \$35.00 = \$ _____

Table Rentals-Pre-registration only

6 ft. # _____ times \$15.00 = \$ _____

Free parking for attendees in the lot directly adjacent to the swap meet lot. If you are reserving a paid space in the swap meet lot for parking purposes only please check here _____

Banquet (Buffet Style) and Show

Buffet Selection:

Beef, Chicken, or Pasta served with Garden Salad, 2 Sides, Fresh Fruit, Coffee, Regular or Iced Tea

_____ Attending times \$40.00 = \$ _____

TOTAL OF ALL \$ _____

Names for banquet name tags

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY STATE ZIP

PHONE # DAY: _____ EVENING: _____

E-MAIL: _____ APPLICATION DATE: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

Please list any special requests or comments below

In order to receive confirmation of your registration and selling space assignment from ARCI by mail, we must receive your registration form on or before July 1, 2019. All sellers must check-in at the Registration Area upon arrival at Radiofest, to receive their parking permits. All selling and parking spaces in the swap meet lot will be assigned by ARCI.

Make check payable to ARCI and mail to: ARCI c/o Edward & Judy Huether; 1039 Troost Ave.; Forest Park, IL. 60130
Have Questions or need more information? Check our website at www.antique-radios.org or send e-mail to clubinfo@antique-radios.org

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Date Received _____ Registration # _____ Check # _____ Spaces _____

HISTORY ZONE

An Occasional Column About Topics of Historical Interest
Submitted By Ron Steinberg

COLOR TV TRANSFORMED THE WAY AMERICANS SAW THE WORLD, AND THE WORLD SAW AMERICA

[Courtesy: Smithsonian Magazine, What It Means To Be American, Susan Murray, Jan. 25, 2019.]

A historian of 20th century media argues that the technological innovation was the quintessential Cold War machine.

In 1959, at the height of the space race, Vice President Richard Nixon and Soviet Premier Nikita Krushchev stood together, surrounded by reporters, in the middle of RCA's color television display at the American National Exhibition in Moscow. Nixon, speaking to Krushchev through a translator, pointed proudly to the television camera before them and addressed the technological competition between the two nations that the leaders had just been debating. "There are some instances where you may be ahead of us, for example, in the development of the thrusts of your rockets for the investigation of outer space," he said. "There are some instances, for example color television, where we're ahead of you."

Comparing the significance of the invention of color television to the development of space rockets sounds ludicrous to us today, but color television was one of the most complex and transformative technological innovations of its time, symbolizing a unique and thoroughly modern form of seeing and representing. It was, in fact, often discussed by its proponents as an ideal form of American postwar consumer vision: a way of seeing the world (and all of its brightly hued goods) in a spectacular form of "living color."

Color television was sold to viewers as a way to experience everything from sports and nature to musical theater in a more legible, realistic, captivating, and sensational way. Network executives pitched it to advertisers as a unique medium that would inspire attentiveness and emotional engagement in viewers, making them more likely to purchase advertised products, a growing myriad of consumer goods and appliances that were now available in a wider set of vibrant colors like turquoise and pink flamingo.

And, as much as rocket thrusters, the color TV was presented as a quintessentially Cold War machine. RCA President David Sarnoff, addressing President Dwight D. Eisenhower at the 1958 dedication of NBC's all-color station in Washington, D.C., seemed to promise that color television was even an efficient political technology—an engine of detection, knowledge, and truth. Sarnoff proclaimed the RCA color camera before him was "relentless in its revelations." In contrast to people in communist countries (who didn't yet have color TV), Americans feared no revelations, he added, as "we want everyone in the world to see America in its true and natural colors... Here we do not seek to be anything other than what we are. And what we are is not hidden by curtains and what we say not hidden by censorship."



*At the start of the 1960s, color television was still a relatively novel technology.
(Found Image Holdings / Corbis via Getty Images)*

Despite all of its advantages, however, it took a while for color TV to catch on. By the 1950s, black and white television sets had been on the market since the mid-1940s and were now affordable to most Americans. Even without vivid color, they had become deeply entwined with the growth of consumerism, the expansion of the suburbs, and the workings of the domestic life of the postwar middle-class nuclear family.

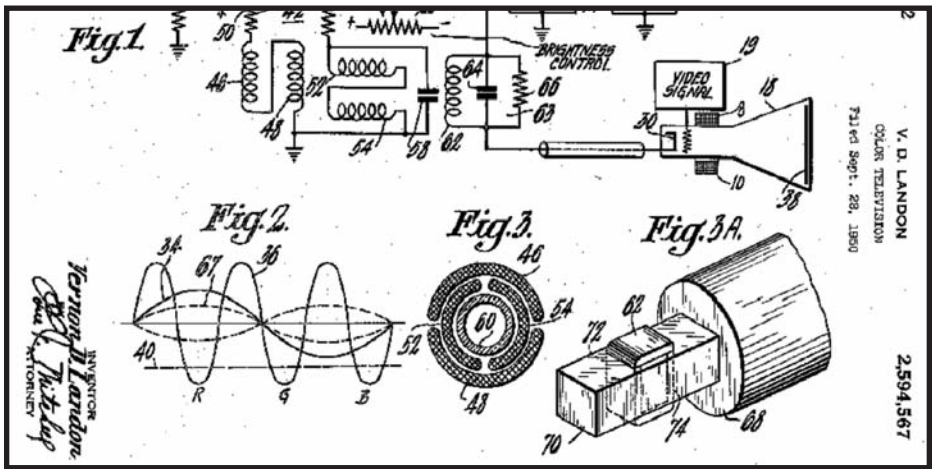
Interestingly, color television systems had been demonstrated as early as the 1920s, though the technology was refined in the late 1940s. It wasn't initially used for entertainment, but as a tool for surgeons and medical students. Doctors had long relied on "wet clinics"—instructional surgeries performed in front of live audiences at medical meetings—to learn their craft. Medical educators had experimented with filming surgeries in monochrome television, but some doctors complained that the feeds were only useful for viewing procedures on cadavers, which were usually drained of color.

Color television, however, provided a more compelling, and efficient, replacement for wet clinics. Projected on large screens before huge medical convention audiences, surgeries cast on closed-circuit color television promised the best seat in the operating theater, providing better close-up views of the body and its interior than even the surgeon performing the operation saw. Color television let students and other viewers distinguish between organs and identify healthy tissue. What's more, advocates said, the views it offered of the internal workings of the body were both highly detailed and multidimensional.

Peter Goldmark, the head of the CBS lab and one of the inventors of color television, noted that audiences at medical conventions responded strongly to the images produced by his system. “The operations were so realistic that some of the viewers, including doctors, fermented in front of the television screens,” he wrote in his 1973 autobiography. “We began to measure the impact of our television shows by the number of faintings we could count.” Goldmark championed his color system by not only asserting its ability to represent the real in true fidelity, but by claiming that the electronic color image of the surgery had even more psychological and visceral impact on viewers than watching it with their own eyes.

Similar claims about the power and impact of the electronic color image carried over into its use in commercial broadcasting. Commercial color television systems were not approved by the FCC until the start of the 1950s, after consumers had already started purchasing black and white sets. Of the three television networks in the U.S., only NBC was invested in pushing color programming—its parent company, RCA, had developed the color system that eventually became the NTSC standard, so it stood to profit from color set sales. Full conversion of all three networks was not complete until the late 1960s.

But during that extended period of conversion and dissemination, network executives, publicists, advertising companies, inventors, and television manufacturers worked assiduously to promote color technology by reinforcing some of the same notions of its perceptual, aesthetic, and emotional functions that medical TV pioneers had noted. They were trying to convince consumers that the liveness and immediacy of television, combined with the unique visual properties of electronic color, would provide them with an expansive and revelatory view on the world that they had never experienced before. These beliefs then slipped into the descriptions of color television by commentators, critics, and journalists, further influencing the way that viewers made sense of their color viewing experience. By extension, they also cemented Americans’ positioning as good consumers—and as referenced by Sarnoff and Nixon—citizens open to the world and able to withstand revelation and scrutiny.



This system, patented by Vernon Landon and assigned to RCA, was the first to broadcast commercially in the United States. (U.S. Pat. No. 2,594,567)

In the early 1960s, the particular psychological and visual attentiveness of color television viewers was explored in a study by researchers at the well-known Institute for Motivational Research, headed up by the era’s best-known consumer behavior analyst, Ernest Dichter, who combined Freudian analysis, observational methods, and interviews to get at the unconscious drivers of consumer behavior and decision-making. The resulting 157-page report, which was used by NBC to get sponsors on board with color, argued that color television gave viewers a reduced sense of psychological distance, while also increasing levels of emotional involvement, empathy, creativity, comprehension, sociality, and immediacy. Color TV could intensify a sense of realism while simultaneously stimulating “a world of fantasy.” Color was also found to be “symbolic of innovation, progress and modernity.” “Color,” the report concluded, “is symbolic of the better life.”

Ultimately, the ability to evoke strong feeling and capture attention was seen as a boon to sponsors willing to invest in color programming and commercials. Color, the thinking went, created a more receptive consumer for advertisers at a time when color had become essential to the design, economics, and planned obsolescence of goods and appliances. Car companies such as Chrysler—which sponsored NBC’s *An Evening with Fred Astaire* in 1958, the first prime-time program recorded live on color videotape—were some of the more enthusiastic color sponsors, finding it a good fit for the display of their ever-growing rainbow of car models.

Color television was more than just an addition to, or enhancement of, black and white television. In the postwar era, it represented the final step in the technological replication and extension of human sight: the enhancement of perception, the peak of consumer vision and display, as well as an idealized Cold War technology of truth and revelation. While color television now is simply television and the idea of a black-and-white set seems distant and quaint, there was a time in which color television was, to use a very contemporary expression, a disruptor. It not only altered the way in which commercial television was produced and received, it also claimed to shift the very way that Americans saw the world and understood their relationship to it.

*Susan Murray is Associate Professor of Media, Culture and Communication at New York University. She is the author of *Bright Signals: A History of Color Television*.*



RADIO ZONE

An Occasional Column About Radio Topics

Submitted By: Ron Steinberg

PICK-UPS, February 1936

W9XIY, Elgin's Two-Way Police Radio



Elgin, Illinois, brings added protection to its citizens with Western Electric Two-Way Police Radio.

Above: Sergeant Rufus Page operates the 50 Watt Ultra-High Frequency Transmitter. Below: The patrol cars showing the flexible antennas. The men are, left to right, Burt Splithoff, Chairman of Elgin Police Board, Mayor Myron Lehman and Joseph G. Huber, Chief of Police.



Above: Police Headquarters showing the transmitter antenna on tower.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY FROM MARCONI

By David Bart

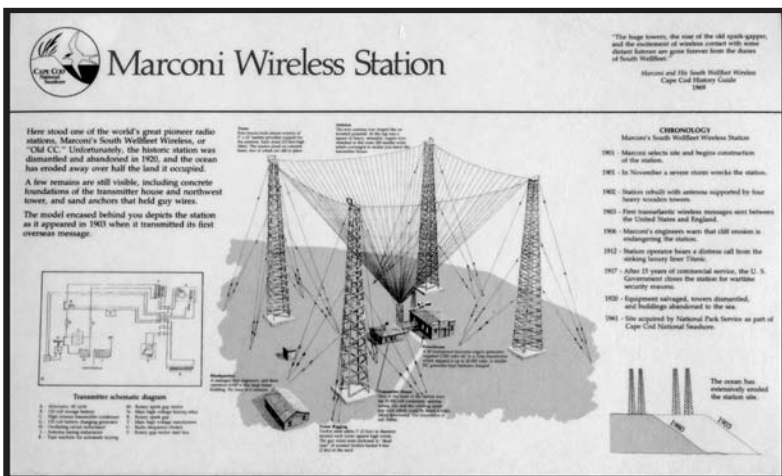
1904 VALENTINE'S GREETINGS FROM MARCONI WIRELESS TELEGRAPH COMPANY

On December 17, 1902, a transmission from the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company station in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia, Canada became the world's first radio message to cross the Atlantic from North America. The prior year, on December 12, 1901, Marconi received the Morse code letter "S" at Signal Hill in St John's, Newfoundland (now part of Canada), using a 500-foot (150 m) kite-supported antenna for reception. The 1901 signals were transmitted by the company's high-power station at Poldhu, Cornwall, in the United Kingdom.

In 1901-1902, Marconi also built a station near South Wellfleet, Massachusetts that was destroyed in a storm and was rebuilt. South Wellfleet finally became operational in January 1903. It sent a message of greetings on January 18, 1903 from President Theodore Roosevelt to King Edward VII of the United Kingdom. However, consistent transatlantic signaling was difficult to establish.

Marconi began to build high-powered stations on both sides of the Atlantic to communicate with ships at sea, in competition with other inventors. In 1904, he established a commercial service to transmit nightly news summaries to subscribing ships, which could incorporate them into their on-board newspapers. A regular transatlantic radio-telegraph service was finally begun on October 17, 1907 between Clifden, Ireland and Glace Bay, but even after this, the company struggled for many years to provide reliable communication to non-Marconi operators.

The role played by Marconi wireless in maritime rescues raised public awareness of the value of radio and brought fame to Marconi, particularly the sinking of the RMS Titanic on April 15, 1912 and the RMS Lusitania on May 7, 1915.



Historical Sign from South Wellfleet Station.

LOVERS' MARCONI-COMMUNICATION COMPANY, UNLIMITED.

AGENTS OF THE WORLD OVER.



HEARTS CONNECTED AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE
BY OUR SIDE-GLANCE SYSTEM.

RATE OF
PAYMENT,

ONE KISS
PER SMILE.

*To my Sweet
Valentine.*

I'm all in a flutter, a message true
Has come by a wireless wire from you,
Or something electric, I'm sure, or a spark,
It's vibrating now on the strings of my heart,
The words I received were as clear as could be

<i>I</i>	<i>love</i>	<i>you</i>	<i>my</i>	<i>darling,</i>
<i>I</i>	<i>hope</i>	<i>you</i>	<i>love</i>	<i>me.</i>

LOVE'S MARCONI



*Miss Eva Henderson Merrill,
Lafayette,
Illinois.*

NEWS FROM THE HAMSHACK

By Jim Novak, WA9FIH

RCA'S HAM RADIO EQUIPMENT: THE ACR-136 SHORTWAVE RECEIVER

RCA – the Radio Corporation of America – incorporated in 1919. The first radio RCA offered was the Radiola I, a crystal set actually manufactured by Wireless Specialty Apparatus (WSA). WSA incorporated in 1907, and it produced telegraph equipment during World War I. RCA took over WSA in the mid-1920s, and in 1929 bought Victor Talking Machine Company, whose trademark was the famous dog “Nipper” listening to a horn speaker “talking machine.” RCA went on to offer many innovations in consumer electronics, including 45 RPM records, 8-track tape cartridges and players, and the National Television System Committee (NTSC) standard color TV system.

General Electric took over RCA in 1986, and later sold the rights to manufacturing RCA consumer products to Thomson, a French firm, who in turn sold RCA to Audiovox. The RCA brand name is now part of VOXX International.

RCA's offerings to the Amateur Radio market mainly consisted of shortwave receivers, including the well-known AR-88, which we will examine in a later article. They entered the ham radio market in the 1930s with the ACR-111, and in 1935 offered the ACR-136, a seven tube, three band, model covering 540 to 18000 kHz for \$69.50, which adjusted for inflation comes to around \$1,250 today!

RCA ACR-136 AMATEUR COMMUNICATION RECEIVER

A self-contained 7 tube Super-het receiver for the Amateur and the Short Wave Enthusiast. Has many desirable features: Beat oscillator, A.V.C., Sensitivity control, Calibrated dial, built-in power supply and dynamic speaker. Has smooth band-change switch for rapid coverage from 540 to 18000 K.C. in three bands. Tuned R.F. stage provides excellent sensitivity and selectivity. Black ripple-finished cabinet measures 22" x 10 1/2" x 11 1/2". The ACR-136 is supplied complete with a matched set of RCA tubes consisting of 3-6D6, 1-6A7, 1-6B7, 1-42, and 1-80. For 110 volt, 60 cycle A.C. operation at 85 watts.

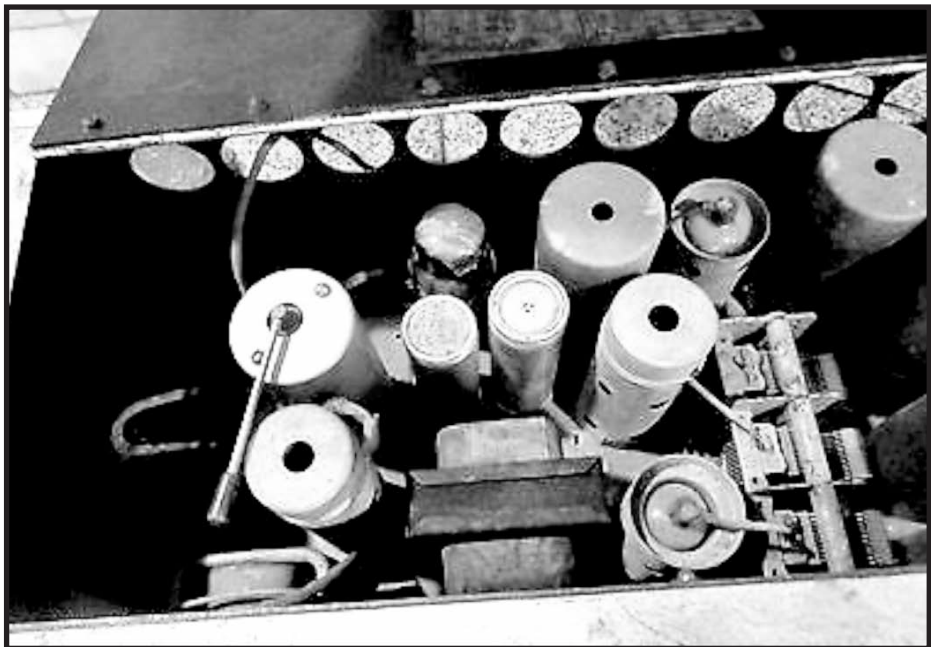
A10170.
YOUR PRICE.....

\$69⁵⁰



Catalogue advertisement for the RCA ACR-136.

I found my ACR-136 in the early 1990s at Kane County Flea Market. It was offered by a seller who had a large van with a sign, "We Clean Out Houses." It was tagged as an old CB – Citizens Band – radio and was quite dirty. It must have been sitting in an attic for years, but it appeared complete. After a good cleaning, I found a schematic and determined that all the correct tubes were in their respective sockets – three 6D6s, and one each 6A7, 6B7, 42, and 80. The cabinet, about 22 inches wide, 10-1/2 inches high and 11-1/2 inches deep, has a nice black wrinkle finish. A built-in speaker occupies the left area of the front panel, with a round tuning dial located to its right. I replaced the AC line cord, checked resistance values, installed a few new capacitors, used contact cleaner on the tube sockets and switches, and checked the tubes (all good!). The dial window was badly yellowed, so I replaced it with a clear thin piece of plastic.



Chassis View of the RCA ACR-136.

Bringing the power up very slowly through my Variac, the radio came to life. With a random length of wire attached to the antenna terminal, local AM broadcast band stations appeared at their appropriate places on the dial. I was able to tune in the WWV time signals and several 80 Meter Band AM Amateur Radio stations. The radio does have a BFO – Beat Frequency Oscillator – for copying Morse code, which functions properly – using the BFO to read Single Sideband – SSB – signals is a bit trickier but is possible.

The RCA Victor Service Notes For 1935 contains a complete write-up about the radio starting on page 123. A copy can be found at <https://www.americanradiohistory.com/ARCHIVE-RCA/RCA-Service/RCA-Victor-Service-Notes-1935.pdf>.



BUSINESS CARD ADS

We invite all of our members to scan and send in your business card to be included in *ARCINEWS*. For \$80 your card will appear in the next 6 issues! Your card will be seen by approximately 400 people per issue and up to 1,000 people at Radiofest where we make additional copies of *ARCINEWS* available at no charge. If interested, please scan your card and send it to jbart1964@gmail.com and mail a check for \$80 to Rudy Hecker, ARCI Treasurer, 127 Weymouth Court, Schaumburg, IL 60193. Thank you all for your continued support of ARCI!!!



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CLASSIFIEDS

For Sale: Selling off remaining collection as part of moving sale. Approximately 70 radios remaining including Scott's, McMurdo's and other tabletops. All table tops, \$2,500 for the lot. If interested, please contact Art at 630.739.1060.

For Sale: FORMER MOTOROLA ENGINEER'S MUSEUM COLLECTION of 75 Motorola home, portable & auto radios from 1949-75, cleaned, polished, and currently on display including descriptive placards and posters, at the Quincy (IL) Museum. Some have minor blemishes not noticeable on display. An additional 20+ sets that exceeded display space are also included. Available as one lot only, after December 2018. \$3,000. Pick up only or pre-arranged delivery. Contact: oshuler@comcast.net or by phone 217-257-5830.

For Sale: Everything I have radio related is for sale. Too much to list. If you want to see what I have, call David at 630-336-9790. I live in Woodridge, Illinois.

CLUBBING AROUND

ANTIQUÉ WIRELESS ASSOCIATION

The Antique Wireless Association will have its next meeting in May 2019 at the AWA Museum in Bloomfield, New York. The AWA, our national affiliate, publishes the AWA Journal, the AWA Review and The AWA Gateway. The latest edition of The AWA Gateway is available for free at <http://www.antiquewireless.org/awa-gateway.html>. Dues are \$35 per year. Information can be found at <http://www.antiquewireless.org/>.

WISCONSIN ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB, INC.

The next WARCI meeting will take place 8-11am on January 20, 2019 at the Knights of Columbus, 1800 S. 92nd Street, West Allis, Wisconsin, 53214. For information about the club, please see the web site at www.warci.org.

NORTHLAND ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB

The Minnesota Club has its next event is scheduled for February 24, a workshop and outdoor mini-swap meet. Radio Daze, the Upper Midwest's ultimate vintage radio collecting event, will be held May 17-18. For more information and the date which will be announced, please see <http://www.northlandantiqueradioclub.com/index.shtml>

MICHIGAN ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB

MARC's Vintage Electronics Expo is scheduled for July 19-20 2019 at the Kalamazoo Expo Center. Details will be announced. Please see the MARC website for more information at <http://michiganantiqueradio.org/>.

INDIANA HISTORICAL RADIO SOCIETY

The IHRS 2019 Winter Meet will be March 9 at Heritage Hall, Johnson County Fairgrounds, Franklin, Indiana. The popular "Salvage Sisters" Antique Show will be in Scott Hall on the Fairgrounds the same Saturday, March 9, from 9:00AM to 3:00PM. For more information please see <http://www.indianahistoricalradio.org/>.





ARCI NEWS

Antique Radio Club of Illinois

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LaGrange Park, IL 60526