



ARCI NEWS

www.antique-radios.org

Affiliated AWA
Antique Wireless Association 

Volume 43, Issue 3
June 2023



RADIOFEST

2023

AUGUST 4 & 5

ARCI CALENDAR

EVENT	LOCATION	DAY & DATE	TIME
Swap Meet	DuPage County Fairground, Wheaton, IL	Sunday, June 11, 2023	7:30 am
No meet or virtual forum scheduled for July			
Radiofest	Medinah Shriner Center	Friday, August 4, 2023 Saturday, August 5, 2023	see program
Virtual Forum	Your Computer	September Date TBD	10:00 am
Swap Meet	American Legion	Sunday, October 1, 2023	7:30 am
Virtual Forum	Your Computer	Saturday, November 18, 2023	10:00 am
Swap Meet	American Legion	Sunday, December 3, 2023	7:30 am

American Legion Hall Meetings are located at: Post 76
570 S Gary Ave
Carol Stream, IL 60188

About ARCI Virtual Forum video sessions
10 AM to 11:30 AM Central time, check-in starts: 9:45 AM Central Time
Generally held on the 3rd Saturday in non-summer months

Agenda items (subject to change):
 History Tips & Tricks
 Technical How-to's
 Show & Tell Items for sale
 Open chat session

To find out more, email: remote-events@antique-radios.org

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WELCOME TO ARCI

Visit ARCI on the WEB

Website: www.antique-radios.org

FaceBook: <https://www.facebook.com/ARCI.org>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@AntiqueRadioClubofIllinois>

Join ARCI

<http://www.antique-radios.org/membershipinfo.html>

-or-

Use the application in this newsletter

Leadership

President	Tom Kleinschmidt
Vice President	Tom Zaczek
Treasurer	Rudy Hecker
Secretary	Jay Stewart
Membership	Elaine Hecker
Radiofest chair	Steve Muchow
Director on-line events	Matt Pollack
ARCI News editor	Maureen Blevins

Contact ARCI

Antique Radio Club of Illinois

P.O. Box 1139

LaGrange Park, IL 60526

clubinfo@antique-radios.org

630-739-1060



ARCI News is published bi-monthly, February through December.
Antique Radio Club of Illinois is a registered non-profit in the state of Illinois.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

June 2023

The **April swap meet** was well attended. We had temperatures in the 30s at the outset. Sellers had the option for indoor and outdoor setup. That seemed to work well.

Donation sales were \$764. Membership renewal and new members yielded \$250.

June swap meet: We are again guests of the Six Meter Club of Chicago in conjunction with their Hamfest. This is the first revival since COVID. It is always a great event with a large attendance.

Sunday, June 11, 2023

DuPage County Fairgrounds, Wheaton, Illinois

2015 Manchester Rd (North of Roosevelt Rd., Rte. 38), East of County Farm Rd.

GPS COORDINATES: N41.866667, W-88.132989

GATES AND FLEA MARKET OPEN 7 AM.

BUILDINGS OPEN TO PUBLIC 8 AM.

More Details https://k9ona.com/hamfest/hamfest_landing.html

A handful of volunteers are still needed for ticket collection for 1.5 and 2 hour time slots. Many have stepped up already to run the event. Will you please do so? Contact: Andrew S. Martin andrewmartin708@gmail.com

This issue of ARCI News is heavily dedicated to *Radiofest 2023*, as is tradition. It is our big annual event with attendees from around the country. We will again have on-line registration: <https://tinyurl.com/Radiofest-2023>. Reminders will be sent via Antique Radio Club of Illinois (Mailchimp) email announcements. USPS mail-in and in-person registration are also available.

The ARCI Radio Club Google group has had lots of great discussion on home AM transmitters.

Member Matt Scott put on a presentation in the May ARCI Virtual Forum which will be posted on the ARCI YouTube Channel soon. <https://www.youtube.com/@AntiqueRadioClubofIllinois>. In addition, each presentation is now cataloged and searchable. Details in Tom Zaczek's update.

See you at the June Six Meter Club Hamfest and ARCI swap meet!

Tom Kleinschmidt

President

Antique Radio Club of Illinois

ARCI UPDATES

April 2023 Swap Meet

photos by Daniel Schoo

Next SWAP MEET: Sunday June 11, 2023 DuPage County Fairgrounds 7:30 AM







Here is a link to more photos on the club website. <http://www.antique-radios.org/pictures.html>

ARCI ONLINE

By Tom Zaczek

ARCI VIRTUAL FORUM #26

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER, DATE TO BE DETERMINED 2023, 10AM CT

Join in on your computer, pad or phone to be a part of our Virtual Forum Video Meetings. You don't need to be an ARCI member!

Stay tuned to the emails from ARCI for the registration link for this meeting. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the link required to join the meeting.

IMPORTANT- You need to receive the confirmation email back because this link gets you into the meeting when the time comes. So, if you don't receive the confirmation email it could be that it is in your spam folder.

Reminder: ARCI is on YouTube. If you can't attend the meeting, you can watch them on-line later! Prior Virtual Forums are available for viewing on ARCI's own YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEyMw9QGrvequC1vZBvHWbQ>

Check it out! Each video has a "table of contents" (where it says SHOW MORE) beneath the main video window that you can click on and go directly to that topic or presentation, so it's easy to watch just one specific presentation. Visit ARCI's YouTube channel where you can click the free "subscribe" button and get notified when a new video comes out.

NEW: There is now also a new complete index of all the prior presentations with links that go right to the specific presentation. On the YouTube home page linked above, go to the "ABOUT" tab and under "LINKS" you will see the link to this index. Here it is: [Full Index of Presentations](#) After clicking this link if you do not go direct to the index, please click the "GO TO SITE" link that appears.

AGENDA (may be revised without notice)

9:45 AM – OPTIONAL PRE-MEETING – Time to get logged-in and troubleshoot any access issues.

10:00 AM – Meeting Agenda

- **INTRODUCTION** – *Tom Zaczek*
- **WE'RE ON YOU TUBE** – *Matt Pollack*
- **PRESENTATIONS:** All of the presentations have not been lined up yet

Here is a link to more photos on the club website. <http://www.antique-radios.org/pictures.html>

presentations of interest in the areas of radio restoration, company history, and technology, to name just a few. Let us know if you have an idea for a presentation!

- **SHOW & TELL, TIPS & TECHNIQUES** 1-to-3-minute *informal* presentation of something you'd like to share with the meeting ... Join in and spend a few minutes to show your item, a helpful tip, radio restoration technique, or how you solved a tough restoration problem.
- **ARCI SWAP MEETS** - An update on the upcoming swap meet and on the one we just held
- **ITEMS WANTED---ITEMS FOR SALE** If you want to offer something for sale OR see if others have what you're looking for, please use this time to discuss it.
- **OPEN SESSION:** Non-moderated chat session as time permits.

12:00 Noon – Close

Planned ARCI live Virtual Forum video meets

We have 5 Virtual Forums for 2023. They are *generally* on the 3rd Saturday of the month. We take most of the summer off so as not to compete so much with vacations and travel to other clubs' events. Also, in months where ARCI has an "in person" swap meet, we are not scheduling a Virtual Forum. After September, here is the date for the last of 2023's Virtual Forums: **November 18**

Be a presenter!

We have seen so many great presentations this past year by folks that *never* made a presentation before! You can do this! The Virtual Forum meeting team can help you with learning how to make a Power-Point presentation, or prepare some simple photo slides. We can help you dry-run it on Zoom. It's easy! Share your project and passion with a 10-minute or longer presentation. Send an email to remote-events@antique-radios.org with your topic.

Become a member of ARCI!

These meets are open to everyone interested in antique radio. You do not need to be a member of ARCI. If you like these meets, your support of the organization is truly appreciated. Please consider joining. Your membership dues help support the club's activities. Please click this link for the membership form: [Antique Radio Club of Illinois \(antique-radios.org\)](https://antique-radios.org) or [membership form editable pdf](#) or use the form on the last page of this newsletter.

I look forward to the upcoming meetings and hope you all get a chance to attend. I encourage you to be a presenter to share your experiences, knowledge, and passions about these old radios!

~ Tom Zaczek

The ARCI Virtual Forum Team: Tom Kleinschmidt, Bill Cohn, Matt Pollack and Tom Zaczek are the ARCI On-Line Meeting Team and can be reached via email at remote-events@antiqueradios.org

ARCI Email Services

In the interest of sharing and promoting vintage radio, ARCI provides two email services, one for announcements and one for enthusiast interaction.

Announcements

The ARCI announcement service has been active for several years. It is used to communicate club business and information from the general public. Examples: Swap meet notifications, items for sale by a member of the general public, and professional radio auction announcements.

These emails are from: "Antique Radio Club of Illinois <clubinfo@antique-radios.org>". The service used is Mailchimp. To join, send a request to: clubinfo@antique-radios.org. You can opt-out at any time via the link at the bottom of each message. There are currently 781 subscribers.

Enthusiast Interaction

Introduced in December of 2022, this email service provides a forum for the sharing of radio related topics. Typical topics are: share your projects, share radio history, place an ad to buy or sell, and make requests for help. Messages are archived and viewable on the web in addition to email delivery.

These emails have the prefix: "[ARCI radio club]" in the subject line. Google Groups is the platform. To join, send a request to: clubinfo@antique-radios.org. You can opt-out any time via the link at the bottom of each message. There are currently 655 subscribers.

There are three ways to receive messages from ARCI radio club google group They are user selectable via personal account:

1. Individual messages (default)
2. Digest (bundled) email messages
3. No email messages, view on-line in ARCI Google Group



RADIOFEST 2023 Update

by Steve Muchow, *RADIOFEST* Chair

RADIOFEST 2023
Friday August 4 - Saturday August 5
Medinah Shriners
550 N. Shriners Drive
Addison, IL 60101

Be sure to reserve the dates of August 4th and 5th. Building on the tremendous success of *Radiofest 2022*, we are enthusiastically putting together a two-day schedule of events that we all look forward to at *Radiofest*. **August 4th and 5th is around the corner ... so be sure to pre-register now for bargain-priced selling spaces and banquet tickets.**

LOCATION: We will return to the spacious and beautifully maintained **Medinah Shriners in Addison, Illinois**. This modern, upscale facility is across from a **Hilton Garden Inn**. The Medinah Shriners is located at the junction of I-355 and Army Trail Road in Addison, Illinois. This is a very convenient location that can be accessed from all directions within the entire Chicago area.

HOTEL: Our official hotel for *Radiofest 2023* is the Hilton Garden Inn, located directly adjacent to the Medinah Shriners complex, and is 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. Once again, the hotel has set aside a block of rooms for *Radiofest 2023* attendees of \$109 per night. This is a really nice hotel at a great price. You will not be disappointed! Reservations at the hotel are now open via the hotel on-line booking link: <http://www.hilton.com/en/attend-my-event/chiahgi-rcoi-82d90c74-aad2-433a-bb10-413961cbf7fd/>

Or, you can call the hotel at: 630-691-0500. Mention “RADIO CLUB OF ILLINOIS” to the friendly reservation agent to get the special discount rate. ***Note that reservations must be received at the hotel by July 14, 2023 to receive our special rate.***

EVENTS SCHEDULE

You can participate in our world-class auction on Friday night and experience the always-anticipated giant open-air swap meet on Saturday. Also on Saturday is the popular donation sale/auction, educational presentation and a special all day program featuring **Old Time Radio programming** in the Shriners lobby. Sellers can participate in the Sellers Raffle with the evening Banquet closing out the event. ***Refer to the specific event details found elsewhere in this ARCI NEWS.***

STREAMLINED REGISTRATION PROCESS

ARCI is, again, offering a streamlined registration processes to best utilize our existing club resources. We have established on-line registration with price incentives for registration and parking spaces compared to the familiar mail-in procedure. Mail-in registration, however, is still an option, if desired. Sellers' parking spots will, again, be on a "first-come-first-served" basis rather than assigning individual spaces. A "Registration Form" can be found in another section of this issue showing price details and registration instructions or on-line at <https://tinyurl.com/Radiofest-2023>

Note: Online pre-registration is instantaneous, but if you decide to use "snail mail", your envelope must be postmarked by July 14, 2023 or July 28, 2023 if registering on-line. On site day of swap meet fees are higher.

OUTDOOR SWAP AREA

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. Parking in this lot will be available only to sellers and attendees who have already purchased selling spaces or will do so on site. All sellers are required to check in at the registration area. Directly adjacent to the sellers' lot is the main parking lot, with plenty of spaces available for buyers and visitors. It is an easy walk from one lot to the other.

IMPORTANT! NO TENT STAKES ARE ALLOWED IN THE SWAP MEET LOT.

Our agreement with the Medinah Shriners strongly stipulates that no tent stakes will be used in the swap meet lot. **This rule will be strictly enforced by ARCI.**

NO ELECTRONICS DISPOSAL...*Radiofest* attendees cannot dispose of electronics on site. The Illinois EPA has substantially tightened the rules regarding disposal of electronics items in state landfills. We are required to keep regular trash and electronic waste separate at the meet. This means no electronics may be placed in our trash containers. We therefore ask for your cooperation on the following: Do not use our area at *Radiofest* for any electronics you simply intend to throw away. We cannot accommodate such items and they should not be brought to *Radiofest*. Items to be placed in our donation auction should have a reasonable possibility of being useful to another collector. In other words, please exercise discretion when placing items in the auction pile. If you do not believe anyone will really want it, then please do not put it in the auction. We will be monitoring the donation auction area carefully, and ARCI does reserve the right to reject any item that we do not deem acceptable for the donation auction. We thank you in advance for your cooperation in this important matter.

RESTROOM FACILITIES

Outside restroom facilities will be provided, conveniently located near the middle of the parking lot along the West side of the seller's lot. Indoor restroom facilities will also be available through the front entrance to the Shriners building.

TRASH CONTAINERS

Trash receptacles for general refuse will be provided in the parking area. **Please do not place any electrical items these receptacles.**

FOOD ITEMS FOR PURCHASE

The Shriners plan on providing a variety of food items for purchase at reasonable prices on Saturday. The Hotel will also serve food throughout most of the course of the event. Logistics prohibit ARCI from providing free drinks or snacks at our fest. However, it can get hot outside, so you may want pack drinks and snacks for yourself and bring them with you to the swap meet.

AUCTION: The opening night auction will be in the Medinah Crescent Ballroom. The large quantity and excellent quality of items available in the auction make this a "must attend" event. You never know what you will find here, including rare and highly collectible items. Jim Sargent from VRPS is returning as auctioneer. *See the excellent article on Auction Information and Rules by John Stone elsewhere in this issue.*

DONATIONS: The usual donation auction will be held at noon (12pm) on Saturday. Keep in mind that you may purchase donated items throughout the day (beginning at 9am) without having to wait for the actual donation auction. Either way, your purchase will likely be a bargain!

BANQUET: Banquet tickets are priced at \$40 per person and are available by pre-registration only. The food is always superb and it is a great way to close out *Radiofest* with your friends. **Note: Tickets must be purchased by July 14, 2023 by mail or July 28, 2023 on-line.** *Please see the separate page in this issue for banquet details.*

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS: Two great programs are scheduled for Saturday. Vintage audio and radio enthusiast Pete Nauseda returns this year with what promises to be an informative program at 1pm on "Myths and Facts in Audio and Radio Restoration" in the MUSIC ROOM. A special treat for *Radiofest* attendees will be listening to Old Time Radio programming throughout the day in the SHRINERS LOBBY brought to you by Radio Host Paul Iverson. *Please see the separate pages in this issue for the presentation details.*

VOLUNTEERS: We need volunteers at *Radiofest*. Those that have volunteered in the past expressed that they enjoyed helping out. They met new collectors and learned a little bit about vintage radio along the way. Let me know if you are

interested (smuchow@att.net).

UPDATES: Watch for additional *Radiofest 2023* information in periodic *Radiofest* emails, mailings and on our ARCI website www.antique-radios.org.

*Steve Muchow,
RADIOFEST Chair*



RADIOFEST 2023
AUGUST 4 & 5
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY





THE ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB OF ILLINOIS

www.antique-radios.org

630-739-1060

Presents:

RADIOFEST 2023

August 4 & 5
Friday & Saturday

*** LOCATION ***

RADIOFEST

Medinah Shriners
550 Shriners Drive
Addison, IL 60101
(630)-458-0200

HOTEL

Hilton Garden Inn Addison
551 N Swift Road
Addison, IL 60101
(630) 691-0500

GPS: Lat 41.936921 & Long -88.040649

20 miles from O'Hare & 26 miles from Midway.
I-355 between I-290 and I-55 at Army Trail Road.

[Hilton Garden Inn ARCI Special Rate](#)

WELCOME TO RADIOFEST!

The *Antique Radio Club of Illinois* (ARCI) proudly invites you to *RADIOFEST 2023*. We will feature a large swap meet, popular Donation Sale, two auctions, educational and old-time radio programs, free seller's raffles, and the popular Karl and Carolyn Knipfel banquet to close out the event.

Food will be available for purchase on both days.

There is no general admission fee for any of the selling areas, and the public is invited to attend. Free parking with easy access to the hotel will be available.

ARCI has done everything possible to ensure that *RADIOFEST* is safe and enjoyable for everyone. Thank you to all the volunteers who make *RADIOFEST* come to life each August. We hope each and every one of you has a great time at *RADIOFEST 2023!*

Tom Kleinschmidt
ARCI PRESIDENT



SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2023 PRESENTERS

PAUL IVERSON shares years of experience as an on-air FM Radio Host of Old Time Radio programs. Visit the lobby anytime to hear the programs.

PETE NAUSED A brings decades of technical experience with Vacuum Tube Audio equipment. Fields of interest and skill include engineering, restoration, and collecting.

FRIDAY AUGUST 4

INDOOR MAIN AUCTION

(CRESCENT BALLROOM)

REGISTRATION 3:00pm – 5:30pm

AUCTION 6:00 pm

Seller's Fee: Members \$ 7 per item
Non-members \$10 per item

LIMIT OF 8 LOTS PER SELLER

Bidder's Fee: Members \$ 3 per card
Non-Members \$ 5 per card
10% Buyer's Premium

**ALL ITEMS MUST BE REMOVED AT END OF AUCTION.
ITEMS NOT REMOVED WILL BECOME PROPERTY OF ARCI**

SATURDAY AUGUST 5

7 am **REGISTRATION OPEN**

7am – 3pm

OPEN-AIR SWAP MEET

8am – 4pm

OLD TIME RADIO PROGRAMS

1pm

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

9am - noon

DONATION SALE (items may be donated
and purchased during this time)

12 noon

DONATION AUCTION (for items not sold
during the Donation Sale - in parking lot)

12 noon

SELLERS RAFFLE

at Donation Auction area

5:30-9 pm **Carl & Carolyn Knipfel BANQUET**

(CRESCENT BALLROOM)

(Cash Bar - 5:30pm Dinner 6:30pm)

Tickets \$40 each

Banquet Tickets pre-registration only-

See www.antique-radios.org for

on-line OR paper registration form

ARCI RADIOFEST 2023

MAIN AUCTION

Friday Night, August 4th

Thanks to John Stone, ARCI Auction Coordinator, for submitting the following auction planning update.

We are pleased to announce that the ARCI Main Auction will again return as the opening event for *Radiofest 2023*. It will be held in the Crescent Ballroom of the Medinah Shriners facility, with an official starting time of 6 PM. Seller registration will open no later than 3:00 pm and close at 5:30 pm, or when we have reached the maximum of 260 registered lots, whichever comes first. As in previous years we anticipate a very busy and well attended event, and we suggest you allow as much time as possible to register and place your items. Sellers will be able to unload their items through the front entrance of the Medinah facility. The Crescent Ballroom is easily accessible from the front entrance, but we strongly suggest you bring your own hand truck or rolling cart with you, if you are bringing heavy or oversized items. Ample parking for buyers and sellers will be available in the lot directly in front of the facility.

The ARCI auction is a unique event, made possible through the joint efforts of generous volunteers from 5 different radio clubs around the country. We are once again privileged to have Jim Sargent, professional auctioneer and president of VPRS in Irving, TX, to call our auction. Jim's unique skills as an expert auctioneer, along with his in-depth knowledge of vintage radios and audio equipment will make for an enjoyable and exciting evening. Backing up Jim's efforts will be Nicholas Tillich, president of the Wisconsin Antique Radio Club. Nick and his crew will handle the critical job of registering all items up for auctions, and then updating and tracking their status throughout the auction process.

Fees are unchanged from the previous auction, and are as follows: \$7 per item for sellers (\$10 for non-members), bidding cards at \$3 each (\$5 for non-members) and a 10% buyer's premium applies. There is an 8 lot limit per seller, along with a total auction lot limit of 260, to keep the auction from running more than 4 hours. Registration will close either at 5:30 PM or when the maximum limit has been reached, whichever comes first.

Food and beverage service (alcoholic and non-alcoholic) is once again planned to be available throughout the duration of the auction, with cash and credit cards accepted.

Auction Rules



- Official auction registration hours: 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM, or when the total number of registered lots reaches 260, whichever comes first.
- Auction begins at 6:00 PM.
- 8 lots maximum per registered seller.
- Auction fees: \$7 per item for sellers (\$10 for non-members); bidding cards at \$3 each (\$5 for non-members); 10% buyer's premium applies.
- Vintage Radio, Audio, Ham Radio, Phonograph, and items related to these categories only. (Advertising, parts, etc.) No new items allowed. No fans, clocks, or other small appliances, except those clearly intended for the purpose of marketing the items listed above. ARCI reserves the right to refuse any item presented at auction registration that does not meet the listed criteria.
- Cash or personal check only for all auction purchases and fees.
- Please hold unnecessary conversation to a minimum while the auction is in progress.
- Please do not bring personal food or alcoholic beverages into the ballroom during the course of the auction.

Please contact John Stone at jmsent2@comcast.net if you have any questions or comments regarding the auction.

RADIOFEST 2023 Logistics

The ARCI club officers and volunteers look forward to your participation in our premier club event. We hope that you have a truly memorable experience. The Medinah Shriners have provided us with a spacious and beautifully maintained facility for holding our event. The Hilton Garden inn is conveniently located on the same campus. You can walk right from your hotel room to the festivities. Your ARCI *Radiofest* volunteers have worked closely with the Shriners to provide you with the most pleasant and enjoyable *Radiofest* experience possible. Please read through the information below and follow the guidelines closely. Your cooperation is important, and always greatly appreciated.

The seller's parking lot is located on the far west side of the Shriners facility, directly adjacent to Swift Road. Parking in this lot will be available only to sellers and attendees who have already purchased selling spaces or will do so on site. The parking lot located directly in front of the facility and directly adjacent to the seller's lot will have ample parking spaces for *Radiofest* attendees. After you enter the Shriners complex from Swift Road onto Hilton Drive, you will take the first left to gain access to the seller's lot, which will be on your left. ***There are three entrances into the lot, but only the middle entrance will be open for access to the lot during registration.*** The registration area will be located immediately on your right as you pull into the middle entrance. All sellers are required to check in at the registration area to pick up name tags, tickets and *Radiofest* handouts prior to parking.

IMPORTANT!

NO TENT STAKES ARE ALLOWED IN THE SWAP MEET LOT

Outside restroom facilities will be provided, conveniently located near the middle of the parking lot along the West side of the seller's lot. Indoor restroom facilities will also be available through the front entrance to the Shriners building. You will find the inside restrooms located directly across from the ballroom, on the left side of the lobby.

Trash receptacles for general refuse will be provided in the parking area. Please do not place any electrical items in these receptacles. Electronics recycling is strictly limited to unsold items from the donation sale and auction. Due to tight Illinois environmental regulations, no electronic junk will be accepted for general disposal at *Radiofest*. There is a cost to the club to dispose of electronic waste. Therefore, the donation team may ask you to retrieve an unsold item at the end of the auction or reject certain items. Our goal is to preserve and re-home as many artifacts as possible. Once it is recycled it is not retrievable.

The Shriners plan on providing a variety of food items for purchase at reasonable prices during Friday's auction and on Saturday at the swap meet. Bar service is

available at the Friday auction, too. The Hotel will also serve food throughout the course of our event.

It can get hot in the outdoor lots, so you may want to pack drinks and snacks for yourself and bring them with you to the swap meet.

Don't forget the Saturday night banquet, you **must** preregister.

Thank you again for your cooperation, and we look forward to seeing you all at *Radiofest 2023!*

Steve Muchow
Radiofest Coordinator

Radiofest information is on the ARCI website www.antique-radios.org and communicated via the ARCI email list and via the June and August newsletters. Send specific questions to clubinfo@antique-radios.org

The Karl and Carolyn Knipfel Banquet ... A great way to close out Radiofest 2023!

Saturday, August 5th
Cash Bar opens at 5:30pm with Dinner at 6:30pm
Crescent Ballroom

Banquet (Buffet Style)

Hand Carved Beef and Glazed Ham
Boneless Chicken Breast - Herbed Lemon
Parmesan Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Penne Pasta with Marinara Sauce, Rolls & Butter
Green Beans Almondine
Tossed Garden Salad, Fresh Fruit or Pasta Salads
Vanilla Ice Cream with Chocolate Topping
Coffee, Tea, Iced Tea

Guest Radio Host and Collector, Paul Iverson, will share his background and memories from his 51 year passion of collecting and presenting Old Time Radio programs.

Banquet Tickets are \$40 per person and are available via pre-registration only. See registration form in this issue or on-line at www.antique-radios.org.

RADIOFEST 2023 PRESENTATION 1

TIME: 8:00am – 4:00pm
TITLE: OLD TIME RADIO
PRESENTER: Paul Iverson
LOCATION: Lobby

Hello,
My name is Paul Iverson.

It was the winter of 1972. I was a 12 year old kid who loved listening to the radio and loved music. I'll never forget one evening I got a call from my best friend Kirk. It was about 9:55 pm, and he said, "Hey man, turn on the radio." I did and heard the classic opening.... "Who knows what evil lurks in the hearts of men...the Shadow knows."

From that moment on, I was hooked!

For the last 51 years, Old Time Radio has been a passion of mine. I have attended countless conventions and had the opportunity to meet many stars from that bygone era.



In January of 2005, WGSL Radio 91.1 FM in Rockford, IL asked me to host their weekly Old Time Radio Program. I did that until the station was sold in 2009 and we aired over 200 episodes. This program was heard every Saturday evening (except for the month of December) at 7:00 PM CST.

During the day we will be listening to episodes of the *Six-shooter*, *Gunsmoke*, *The Shadow*, *Burns and Allen*, *Fibber McGee & Molly* and MANY others...

It is my great pleasure to share some of these shows with you.

RADIOFEST 2023 PRESENTATION 2

TIME: 1:00 pm – 1:50 pm

TITLE: Myths and Facts in Audio and Radio Restoration

PRESENTER: Pete Nauseda

LOCATION: Music Room

We often seek several information sources (especially via the internet) to get us through a restoration project.

How can we be confident that a recommended “fix” (such as using chemical cleaners on switches and potentiometers) will do no harm? What are some considerations when substituting components (such as performance and safety)? What about using lead-based solder vs. lead-free solder?

Vintage audio and radio enthusiast Pete Nauseda returns to help keep us on the right path by sharing his experience and expertise with the nuts and bolts of electronics restoration.

Pete’s ARCI presentations are always informative and entertaining, so be sure to set time aside to join Pete for this unique topic.

BONUS: ATTENDEES CAN PARTICIPATE IN A RAFFLE
FOR A POCKET DIGITAL OSCILLOSCOPE
FOLLOWING PETE’S PRESENTATION.



Pete Nauseda boasts decades of technical experience with vacuum tube audio equipment. He has shared his knowledge via presentations at many ARCI *Radiofests* and always draws an enthusiastic audience. In addition to kit building, Pete’s interests and skills include engineering, restoration and collecting.

SATURDAY SWAP MEET SELLERS SPACES:

- \$20 Each, On-line registration**
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- \$30 Each, On-site**

Note: Spaces are first-come-first served- no assigned space numbers

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**SWAP MEET TABLES: 6' - \$15 Each
(Pre-registration only)**

**HOTEL ROOMS: ARCI Rate \$109 per night
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PLEASE NOTE

- NO SALES BEFORE 7AM SATURDAY.
- All activities are subject to rescheduling.
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ARCI Radiofest 2023

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Transistor Radio Clones From A to Z

by Norm Smith

The transistor radio was a new and exciting product when it was released in the mid 1950's. With the emergence of Top 40 radio playing "Rock & Roll and the "Baby Boom" generation, the new lightweight portable radio became an instant sensation. Many radio manufacturers joined the fray to get a piece of the action in these early, high profit sales.

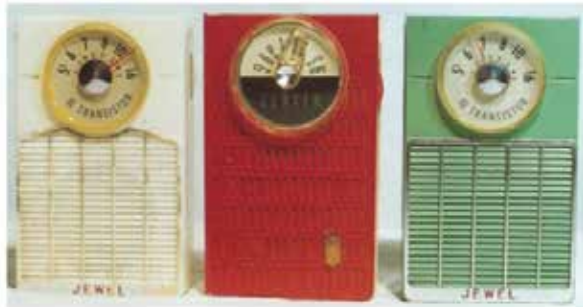
One company that really led the way for great engineering and design was the Zenith Radio Corporation. As a result of their success, it was not very long before radios from many other manufacturers appeared on the market. This is an overview of many radios which in some way did emulate the Zenith designs.

We will cover several highly successful Zenith models and some of the more obvious attempts to market a radio which might ride on the coat tails of that sales success.

The first model is the Zenith Royal 50. This shirt pocket radio had very good sales and it was not long before "look alike" radios appeared. The most commonly seen is the model TS10 which was marketed by large department and music stores. Each store used it's own trade name for this set. Names such as Jewel, Grinnels, Hudson, Ambassador, Majestic, and others were used. As you can see in the photos, the styling of the TS10 is a hybridization of the Zenith Royal 50 and the RCA model 3 RH21. The front closely resembles the RCA and the rest of the cabinet design is a direct take of the Zenith design. The circuitry inside bore no resemblance to the Zenith or the RCA.

The Zenith Royal 50's success led to many clones

- Clones had higher transistor count but poorer performance
- A "TS10" design was used in many clones
- Some of the clone brands: Jewel, Grinnels, Hudson, Ambassador, Majestic



Clone vs Royal 50

Jewel Branded Clones Flanking a Royal 50

... More Royal 50 clones

- Some TS10 styling is a hybridization of Royal 50 and RCA 3RH21



Grinnells, RCA Victor, and Royal 50

Zenith Royal 500 and a variety of clones from other manufacturers

One of the most copied of all transistor radios was the Zenith Royal 500. This very successful radio set the standard by which many other radios were compared. It was not long before there were a great variety of similarly styled radios on the market. Some were obvious direct copies and some varied just enough to avoid patent infringement problems. One very rare model was the Webster which is shown in these photos below. It was made in England and never put in to mass production.

The Zenith Royal 500: Perhaps the most copied of all Transistor Radios

Royal 500 was produced from 1955-1965; many clones appeared over this time. The Webster from England is a very close appearing copy.



Royal 500 (left) Webster (right)

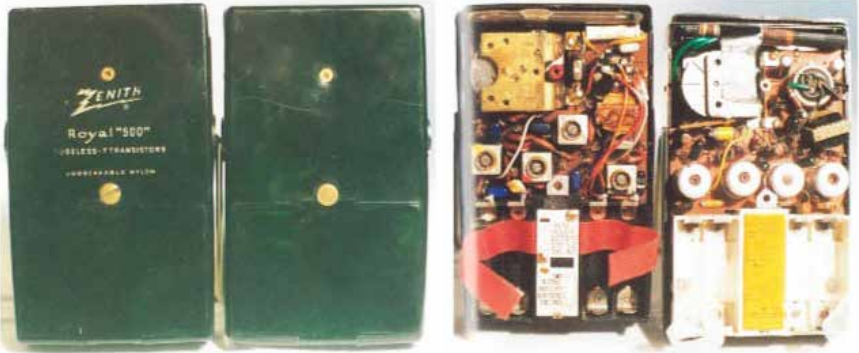
Royal 500 (left) Webster (right)

Widely distributed Royal 500 clones from the same marketing groups that copied the Royal 50 quickly began to show up in the same large department and jewelry stores. These radios were the same exact dimensions and even copied the internal circuitry right down to the placement of components on the circuit board. The cabinet styling even included the exact dial and volume script. These photos show

that and also many variations of names and cabinet variations.

Similar looking Webster - Not the same inside and in performance

- Entirely different chassis design and of inferior quality
- Primitive chassis - not very durable
- 6 transistor, poor performing, never marketed in the U.S.



Royal 500 (left) Webster (right)

Royal 500 (left) Webster (right)

The Royal 500 - Gimbels Dial Script Similarities

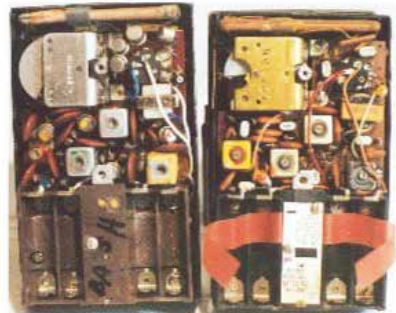


Many Zenith Royal 500 clones made

- Same Marketing organization that made Royal 50 clones “TS10” design did same here
- Chassis was nearly a complete copy in component placement - made from 1959-1961
- Some contained 8, 10, or 12 transistors - only 7 were actually employed usefully



Gimbels (left) and Royal 500 (right)



Gimbels (left) and Royal 500 (right)

Many Zenith Royal 500 clones...

- Other brands include Ambassador, Hudson, Gimbels, Grinnels, Artone, Jewel, Cosmopolitan, Majestic
- Made in USA but contained some foreign components



L to R: Ambassador, Jewel, Artone, Jewel

Another very close copy was this one sold by the Bulova Watch Company.



Bulova (left) and Royal 500 (right)

Bulova (left) and Royal 500 (right)

Admiral Radio Corporation released their own design which turned the radio from a vertical to a horizontally styled radio. These photos feature the similarities of the Admiral and also some Japanese made copies of the Admiral.

More U.S. Competitors - Admiral



Admiral 801 (left) and the Zenith (right)

**Admiral 801
and
Gloritone**



**Admiral
and
Excel**



What is considered to be the best lightweight transistor radio ever, was the Zenith Royal 500H. These were released in the summer of 1961.

An extremely rare copy of the Zenith was the Lloyd's TR 800. Only a small number of these were sold before litigation over patent rights stopped their sales. The following group of photos features the similarities of both radios.

The Royal 500 H clones - Lloyds TR-800



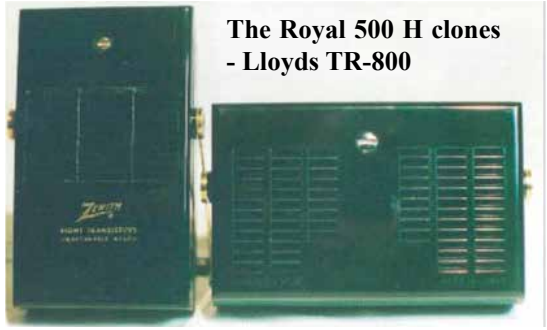
Zenith 500H (L) and Lloyd's TR-800 (R)



500H (L) and TR-800 (R)



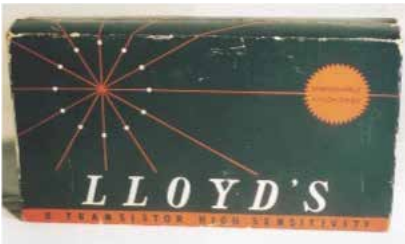
Zenith 500H (top)
Lloyd's TR-800 (bottom)



The Royal 500 H clones
- Lloyds TR-800

Zenith 500H (L) and Lloyd's TR-800 (R)

Lloyds TR-800



Another category of radio that was well received from Zenith was the Navigator series. These photos show the Admiral "Clipper" and a Japanese made "Weathercaster" and the Zenith "Super Navigator".

**The Royal 790
"Super Navigator"**



Super Navigator clones



Weathermaster ST-8J



Admiral Clipper

The Zenith “Transoceanic” was the large multi-band receiver and several very similarly styled radios from other manufacturers soon appeared on the market. The Zenith “Royal 1000” was soon followed by Admiral’s “All World” model 909. When Zenith added FM reception on their “Royal 3000”, Admiral countered with the model 1009. Another very close copy was the Heathkit model GR43. From the outside it looked almost identical to the Zenith “Royal 3000”. The electronics had no similarity to the Zenith design.



A Zenith Royal 1000 Trans-Oceanic Clone: The Admiral 909 “All World”



A Zenith Royal 3000 Trans-Oceanic Clone: The Admiral 1009 “All World”

the 1009 added FM



**Another Zenith Royal 3000
Trans-Oceanic Clone:
The Heath Model GR-43**



The next generation of the “Transoceanic” was the Royal 7000. This radio was copied by Sony Corporation with their “Earth Orbiter” model CRF 5090. There were also several “Transoceanic” type radios from other foreign sources such as Realtone, JVC, Juliette, Philips and Lloyd’s. This photo features the similarities of the Zenith and Sony.

**A Zenith Royal 7000 Trans-Oceanic Clone:
The Sony “Earth Orbiter” Model CRF-5090**



For a more in-depth look at these and other Zenith transistor radios, please refer to the book “ZENITH TRANSISTOR RADIOS” by Norman R. Smith. ISBN:0-7643-0015-6.



Norman R. Smith resides in Bradenton, FL and is the author of two books: [*Zenith Transistor Radios: Evolution of a Classic*](#) (Paradigm Visual Series) and [*Transistor Radios: 1954-1968 \(A Schiffer Book for Collectors\)*](#)

Both are available on Amazon.com

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