

# The Colorado Radio Collectors Antique Radio Club

# FLASH!

Volume 9

March



April

1998

Issue 2



## *In This Issue...*

- ◆ Colorado Radio History
- ◆ Ballast Tube Substitution
- ◆ Wire Size Considerations
- ◆ Meet the Collector
- ◆ Annual CRC Show and Sale Info!
- ◆ Collect Radio related items

## ABOUT THE COVER

Talk about your dedicated collectors! Our own "Prez", Neil Gallensky, is our featured collector this month, and this picture is a sample of the diversity of Neil's collection . How many of you have ever seen what may very well be the first glass radio ever made? Or how about one of the smallest radio ever made? Just turn to page 19 and read all about it.

## The Coloradio Collectors Antique Radio Club

**Meetings:** Unless otherwise noted in this journal, regular meetings are held on the second Sunday of every other month starting in January (except: 3rd Sunday of May) at 1:00PM at the VectraBank Building, Community Room, 1380 S. Federal Bl. The meeting normally includes business items, discussions, "show and tell", a raffle and a swapmeet.

**Membership:** All dues are \$12.00 annually. Joining dues are prorated to June 1st. Contact club for foreign rates. Send dues and membership inquiries to the CRC temporary Treasurer, David Boyle, 1058 Colt Cir., Castle Rock CO 80104 (303)681-3258, Dave.boyle@gte.net

**Article Contributions:** Submission of articles are always appreciated. This would include historical and technical items as well as stories about individual collections. Articles may be written or e-mailed, and need not be in final form. Submissions and requests for information should be directed to the CRC "Flash!" Publisher, Larry Weide, 5270 E. Nassau Cir., Englewood CO 80110 (303)758-8382 - lweide@ibm.net.

### C.R.C. 1998 Officers

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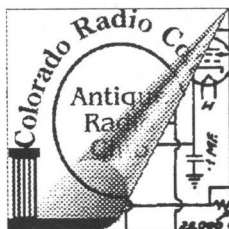
**Want Ads:** Submission of Sell/Want ads are always free to CRC members. Non-members may advertise in the Flash! for \$0.20 a word. Display advertising is available by contacting the CRC publisher, Larry Weide, for info and rates.

**Publishing Deadlines:** All submissions must be submitted by the 1st of Feb, Apr, Aug, Oct and Dec. for publishing in the following months.

**Thanks** to the Pressworks for printing the Flash! - (303) 934-8600

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**Upcoming 1998 CRC Events:** March 8th - Regular Meeting, May 16th - Regular Meeting (3rd Sunday)      ♦ **Annual CRC Show and Sale** - April 18th & 19th ♦



# Colorado Radio Collectors Antique Radio Club

Founded October 1988

Dedicated to the Preservation and Education of  
Wireless, Radio, Television and Associated Equipment.

Volume 9, Issue 2

March/April

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# A CHAT WITH THE PRESIDENT

## Spring is in the Air!

by Neil Gallensky, CRC President

Spring is almost upon us! It's time to think about cleaning out that garage and basement, and finishing up those radio restoration projects in time for our annual CRC Show, scheduled for April 18 and 19 [Note: look elsewhere in this issue of the Flash for more show details]. As our show Chairman, Vice President Tom Kelley has pulled together a committee that is actively working all of the details and formulating plans to make our 1998 show our best ever. Even with the committee's dedication, this show will not be a success without your support,, so I'm requesting your help. Bring some radios to show in the club contest. Don't worry if you don't own a DeForest Interpanel, an Atwater Kent Breadboard, or a Spartan Bluebird. To the general public (and to other club members), all of your radios are worthy of display, so let's make this year's display our largest ever! To make sure I'm being clear in my request, I'm bringing some radios to the show; are you? If you're not sure yet, what do I need to do to convince you to participate? At the show, historical displays or illustrations of restoration projects are especially welcome. And for those of you trying to clean up that basement, bring along a few sets to swap or sell. You might just make another club member or a beginning collector very happy, and gain some spending money in the process!

1998 is off to a very good start for the CRC. We had a successful and fast-paced January club meeting. The Broncos' playoff schedule notwithstanding, thanks to you for your excellent attendance at the meeting! We moved ahead with making some important decisions and kicked off several important club activities. David Boyle will fulfill the role of liaison with the Wings Over the Rockies Air and Space Museum. Our display at the museum will be seen by TENS OF THOUSANDS of visitors annually, according to Bart Whitehouse, CRC member and museum volunteer. Please support David when he contacts you with requests for radios or historical information. Additionally, plans are moving ahead for our Spring display at the Westminster Historical Society (Bowles House) Museum. Matt Lutkus is coordinating the exhibit, and welcomes your support.

It is unfortunate that Dick Hagrman is choosing to step down as club treasurer, effective immediately. Thanks for your dedication and service as treasurer, Dick! David Boyle will be acting as temporary Treasurer, awaiting a permanent replacement. If you live in Central/West Denver (or suburbs) and would consider filling this role, please contact me or David.

On a different topic, I would like to find out how many of you are involved in exploring Radio Collecting via a relatively new medium, the Internet. Not all of us may be "connected" electronically, yet the impact of the Internet on our hobby is impossible to ignore. If you have an interesting experience to share (a story regarding the electronic purchase of that treasured addition to your collection, for instance), a resource on the Web which we should all know about, or any other radio-related Internet trivia, drop me a line (by e-mail, of course!) at [neg@lucent.com](mailto:neg@lucent.com). I will collect and edit your contributions for inclusion in a future issue of the Flash. Depending on your response, this could also be a topic for a future club meeting.

Well, that's it for now. I really appreciate your support, and look forward to seeing all of you at our March meeting and April show!

Neil

# Collector Books for Sale

CRC Members get specially reduced prices on popular collector books. Place and receive your order at club meetings. If ordered for mail shipment add \$1.25 postage for each book ordered. For information and ordering: Charles Brett, (719) 495-8660, [cfb@concentric.net](mailto:cfb@concentric.net).

This listing has been updated. New orders not valid from previous Flash listings

	Retail	Club
<b>ANTIQUÉ RADIOS, COLLECTOR'S GUIDE - 4th EDITION</b> Bunis, 1997 values, revised & updated, new photos, 248 pgs	\$18.95	\$14.00
<b>GUIDE TO OLD RADIOS, POINTERS... - 2rd EDITION</b> Johnson, 277 pages, 1995-96 prices	\$19.95	\$14.00
<b>ANTIQUÉ RADIO RESTORATION GUIDE - 2rd EDITION</b> Johnson, 144 pages, repairing, refinishing, cleaning	\$14.95	\$11.00
<b>RADIO &amp; TELEVISION PRICE GUIDE - 2nd EDITION</b> Harry Poster, 1994 values, 195 pages, Years 1920 - 1990	\$17.95	\$13.00
<b>RADIO, EVOLUTION OF THE - VOLUME ONE</b> 227 pages, 118 in color, More than 800 radios pictured and priced for 1992, picture from the collections of CRC members Jim Berg and Johnny Johnson	\$22.95	\$16.00
<b>RADIO, EVOLUTION OF THE - VOLUME TWO</b> All different from Volume One, 226 pages, Color, Radios of the 1920s - 1960s, with 93-94 values, pix from CRC member Jim Berg	\$24.95	\$17.00
<b>TRANSISTOR RADIOS, COLLECTOR'S GUIDE VOL II</b> Bunis, 1996 prices, Full Color	\$16.95	\$12.00
<b>TRANSISTOR RADIOS, COLLECTOR'S ENCYCLOPEDIA</b> Lane & Lane, 1994-95 prices, 168 pages, Photos, 2200 listings	\$19.95	\$14.00
<b>ZENITH TRANS-OCEANIC, ROYALTY OF RADIOS</b> Bryant, 1995 Price Guide, 160 pages, History/Restoration, 100 Photos	\$24.95	\$17.00
<b>RADIOS BY HALLICRAFTERS</b> Dachis, 1996 values, 220 pages, 1000+ pics, id's, history	\$29.95	\$20.00
<b>CLASSIC TV'S, PRE-WAR THRU 1950'S</b> 86 pages, color & b/w pics, descriptions, etc.	\$18.95	\$14.00
<u>Machine Age to Jet Age</u> , Radiomania's Table Radio Guide I, '33-'59 Stein, 255 pages, 100's photos	\$24.95	\$17.00
<u>Machine Age to Jet Age</u> , Radiomania's Table Radio Guide 'II, 30-'59 Stein, 358 pages, 100's photos	\$28.95	\$20.00

# The Annual CRC April Antique Radio Show and Sale

## Everything you need to know to get ready

Yes, it's that time of year again when we dust off, polish up and get our treasures from the past ready to put on display for fun and, who knows, maybe a little profit. Of course I'm talking about choosing those items that we would like to show in our annual contest, and perhaps other items we would like to sell as well.

As in past years, the Show Committee met in January in order to review the past shows and determine what parts of this activity needed changing to hopefully make this year's show even better. The following is the complete packet of information you will need for this year's show and sale.

**Location:** The Denver Stock Show Complex - North Building

**Date:** Contest April 18, showing and sale April 18 - 19

### Contest Categories:

Accessories	Metal Case
Art Deco	Novelty - Transistor
Bakelite	Novelty - Tube
Battery - 1926-1930	Plastic - Tube
Catalin	Portable - Pre 1926
Cathedral	Portable - Post 1925
Classic Audio	Pre 1925
Communication Gear	Speakers
Console - Full Length	Specialty Brand - Motorola
Console - High/Low Boy	Television
Console - High End	Tombstone
Crystal Set	Transistor
Metal Box - 1920's	Tube/Parts Display
Peoples Choice *	Wooden - Line Powered
Best Restoration **	Best of Show **

\*=Popular vote by public \*\*=Popular vote by CRC members

## Judging Criteria:

- Internal Condition
- External Condition
- Rareness - Meaning: Relatively few are in existence
- Uniqueness - Meaning: Novel, and not many like it
- Presentation - Meaning: How well displayed, supporting documentaton, descriptions, etc.

As in past years there will be some emphasis, by virtue of the criteria weighting, on an entry's condition. The idea is to allow radios of all ages and collector value to be able to compete fairly. Thus, collectors who have given time and care to restoration and/or cleaning to *any* of their radios should not hesitate to consider entering them in the contest. The show is only successful when there is abundant participation by CRC members.

## Timetable of Events:

Friday, April 17th - 2:00pm to 8:00pm - Setup

- ✓ This is the only time that you can drive into the complex to drop off equipment. Enter site at N/E corner, then around to west entry ramp.
- ✓ You can setup Saturday, but you will have to carry equipment in.

Saturday, April 18th - Set up, Registration, Contest and awards

- ✓ 8:00 am - Setup and Registration
- ✓ 9:00 am - Complex opens to public, begin selling
- ✓ 10:00 am - Registration Cutoff
- ✓ 10:30 am - Judges Briefing
- ✓ 11:00 am - Judging Commences
- ✓ 1:00 pm - Awards Posted
- ✓ 5:00 pm - Complex closes for the evening
- ✓ 6:00 pm - CRC dinner commences

Sunday, April 19th - Display and sale continues

- ✓ 4:00 pm - Complex closes



## Costs for Space and Equipment Rental:

The stock show complex charges the CRC for the space assigned and for each table and chair that is used. The CRC prorates the cost of the selling space into a charge to each seller, and passes on the cost of the optionally rented sellers tables and chairs. Sellers may share the cost of space and equipment with each other in any combination. Sellers may choose to use their own tables and chairs. Good news! Notice that the 50% reduction in cost for spaces continues to be in force.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>COST</u>
Space	\$20
Table	\$6
Chair	\$1

## CRC Dinner Arrangements:

We will continue to have the annual show dinner at the end of the first day of the show. This is a time when we can get together to relax, enjoy a leisurely meal, talk about the events of the day and have the official announcement of rewards. *You need not attend this dinner to receive your award(s).*

- You must make reservations by 12:00 am on Saturday with Jerry Tynan.
- You are invited to bring a guest.
- Payment for dinner must accompany reservations - no refunds.
- A reservation will be approximately \$11/person (includes tip).

## Content of Judges Briefing:

- Explanation/Review of categories and criteria
- Judging assignments based on membership attendance and judge's own entries
- Pairing of judges
- Explanation of entry reviewing and arriving at a judging consensus

### Additional Items of Interest:

- Light snacks will be provided by the CRC for attending members.
- Volunteers are needed to watch over displays - Sat. & Sun.  
Please consider coming and staying at least a while even if you're not entered in the contest or selling.
- You are highly encouraged to wear your CRC membership badge.  
You will need your badge for free exhibitor entry into the building. You will need your badge to receive complimentary CRC snacks.

### A Timely Reminder

Although there have *never* been any problems, you need to be aware that the CRC does not assume any liability for lost, stolen or damaged articles, brought to this event by anyone, for show or for sale. The Denver Collector's Fair does provide a show-time walking guard and off hours security.



You too could be selling your radios to one of Denver's largest collector crowds - just like these guys!



# Colorado's "Who's on First"

by

Wayne Gilbert, CRC Member

The question always arises as to who was the first to operate a broadcast station in Denver or Colorado, and the answer is simply "Who do you want it to be?". Doc Reynolds was issued an experimental license 9ZAF (later to be re licensed as KLZ) to broadcast from Colorado Springs in 1918. But while there were others transmitting wireless messages in Colorado even before the First World War, many believe that it was only in 1920, when the concept of broadcasting voice transmissions to the public at regularly scheduled times, that true radio broadcasting began. Doc Reynolds and his predecessors are often viewed as amateurs or experimenters, and there is ample documentation that Doc's earliest transmissions were often intended to be from station to station as well as from station to a listening public, a practice that at least bordered on being what could be described as a "ham transmission."

Certainly Doc was hoping his broadcasts would be widely heard and promote an interest in radio with the general population, but this desire was likely to have been motivated because he wanted to create a market so he could build and sell more radio receivers, a vocation he found to be of more interest

than dentistry. In fact, he and all the other historically noteworthy broadcasting radio pioneers had to be first and foremost radio promoters, then radio manufacturers, and finally radio broadcasters. While some, like Doc and his family, seemed to embrace broadcasting for its own sake with an unusual enthusiasm, most early broadcasting stations were intended to promote the interests and businesses of their owners. And the business of most of these early owners was the manufacturing and selling radio receiver components, kits, and sets to new and prospective listeners.

Another contender for being the first on the air was Duncan Pyle. He was issued a license for WDP in 1920 after following Doc's example of first positioning himself as a radio receiver manufacturer who could and willing would provide you with a set with which to listen to his broadcasts. Although he was, again like Doc Reynolds, to later move to Denver, his earliest stations were also located in Colorado Springs.

Harry Buckwalter, another local radio promoter/manufacturer successfully persuaded world renowned opera singer Frieda Hemple to sing a selection over his station (9XAG) to

Rocky Mountain area listeners in 1921, but the ever aggressive Doc Reynolds soon topped this accomplishment by broadcasting a full opera from the roof of the city auditorium. With this, Buckwalter seems to have decided not to enter into the broadcasting business commercially, and it appears that the only regularly scheduled commercial broadcasts that were meant for the entertainment of Colorado's general listening public that year came from either Reynold's or Pyle's broadcasting stations.

The fact that there were only two commercially licensed stations in Colorado in 1921 would seem to indicate that we were lagging behind in the advancement of radio, but in truth Colorado was known to be one of the hubs of radio advancement in the nation. While some of the larger populated areas of the country had more licensed stations, their use was mainly limited to broadcasts of the entertainment variety, while in the middle part of the nation, including Colorado, it was the purpose of many transmissions to broadcast current news, livestock and grain reports and weather forecasts as well as entertainment programs, and farmers began to view a radio as a necessity. Soon there were many small local stations applying for a license to legally broadcast in their area.

By 1922 there were reports of 94 broadcasting stations in Colorado, with 29 of these being classified as licensed amateurs, 61 licensed stations and four commercially sized stations, and the race was no longer who was first to be on the air, but who could draw the most

listeners and thus acquire the required financial backing necessary to remain on the air. (Undoubtedly at least a portion of the 94 stations was borderline broadcast/amateur stations and some others may have been broadcasting at so low power that they felt they didn't need proper licenses.) Doc Reynold's station KLZ continued to be primarily family run and financed, but Duncan Pyle's KDZQ had the backing of both the Denver Post and the Rocky Mountain News. The Department of Commerce also lists Pyle as licensed to operate station KFFQ.

Western Radio Company had undoubtedly noted that broadcasting brought customers and successfully lured the Denver Post's support away from Pyle's station KDZQ to their newly licensed KFAF. They also licensed KDZU by year's end as their secondary station.

Three other well remembered radio pioneers, "Pop" Smith, Captain W. L. Winner, and Gene O'Fallon entered into the broadcasting at about this time. Pop Smith, who is remembered as one of the pioneers of Colorado wireless, licensed KAO and broadcast from the top floor of the YMCA while Capt. Winner and Gene O'Fallon were "broadcasting" from their wireless station at Fitzsimons Hospital.

Only nineteen Colorado stations were large enough to attain national listings as holding broadcasting licenses in 1923, a level that was to be typical for the remainder of the decade. Notable among the new licensees was KFEL, Capt. Winner and Gene O'Fallon's new station now located in mid Denver.

A full third of the nationally recognized legally licensed stations in Colorado did not survive beyond 1923, but notably some of those who did endure were broadcasting from outside the Denver metropolitan area. Colorado Springs still continued to be a Mecca for the fledgling radio industry and an incubator for new broadcasting stations, but there were stations in Boulder, Trinidad, and Greeley's KFKA, (of which only KFKA was to survive to the end of the decade).

The decline in small local stations can be attributed to several reasons, including bad management and lack of sponsors, but it also has to be noted that the qualities of both radio transmission and receiving equipment were improving and both big, higher powered national and regional broadcast stations and network programming were edging out the smaller local stations. Radio broadcasting went from being a mainly local news/entertainment source to being the medium that could bring news and entertainment from across the nation and the world instantaneously.

It was also about this time that the hobbyist and amateur radio builder found his market dwindling, as radios became more a piece of furniture than a kludge of wires, and batteries. A good example of this change in taste was the introduction of the A/K model 20 to replace the previous breadboard models, a change that was dictated more for esthetics than for improved technology.

The only lasting station that was newly licensed in 1924 was General Electric's station KOA although there

were small broadcasters like the Nassour Brothers of Colorado Springs still trying to follow the path blazed by Reynolds and Pyle. Their station, KFKZ lasted only about four years, while GE's KOA was to become a permanent contender for the listeners in the Rocky Mountain area, proving that radio was becoming an industry that would be difficult for small businesses to compete in.

Although there were a few new stations licensed in 1925, the number of stations dropped back to about the 1924 level of 15 in 1926. The only notable station newly licensed during these years was Duncan Pyle's station KXFX, which underwent a call letter change to become KVOD and as such survived until the 1950s.

KPOF, the Pillar of Fire's controversial religious station was the most enduring of the new stations of 1928, but the combination of tighter government regulations, the economic depressions of 1929 and the continuing improvements in the radio broadcasting and receiving equipment were the significant events of the end of the decade of the 20s. New stations were opened, all claiming to be the "biggest or best" in some feature or another, while smaller and poorer financed ones faded from the air, and the issue became not which station was first, but which station would last.

As a final note, I believe KLZ earns the right to be recognized to be Colorado's first broadcast station, at least as we define the term currently. I base this opinion upon several factors other than the date of their earliest

transmissions, such as, because their early broadcasts were regular even if not specifically scheduled, and because their broader appeal attracted a larger audience, and equally important, they survived.

It should also be noted, however, that there were many lists of licensed broadcasting stations published by both private, public, and governmental sources during this era and many times stations that were listed by one source would be omitted by the authors of other lists. It was not the author's intent to attempt to mention all the stations, or even all the main stations in any year. Not included were many small local stations who provided Colorado's listening public with interesting and valuable programs and pleasure.

#### Sources:

"Broadcasting Station Directory,"  
Radio Age. October 1922.

Colorado Heritage. State Historical  
Society of Colorado. Winter 93.

"Doc Reynolds Startled Amateurs  
Back in 1912". Rocky Mountain News.  
April 22, 1934.

Landry, Robert. This Fascinating  
Radio Business. New York: The  
Bobbs-Merrill Company.

Krumm, L.R. "The Development of  
Radiophone Broadcasting," Radio News,  
September 1922

Reynolds, Naomi. Typescript from  
Colorado Historical Society Library.  
circa 1930s

Saunders, Walter. "Doc was a Ham  
at Heart." Rocky Mountain News. 19  
April 1959.

Williams Ralph. "Atwater Kent Early  
radio Development". AWA Review vol2,  
1987.

Winner, Captain. "Post Radiograms".  
The Denver Post. May 31, 1922.

# Ballast Tube Substitution

by

Alan Douglas, Guest Author and AWA Member

[Once again we are privileged to have a guest author, of renown in the radio world, bring us information that is applicable in a number of power substitution situations. We thank the staff of the Delaware Valley Historic Radio Club's "Oscillator" for reprinting permission - Ed.]

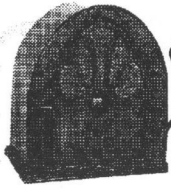
Okay, this one is for R-390A receiver owners who are tired of replacing the expensive ballast tubes that drop 24VAC down to 12V for oscillator-tube heaters. Assuming that the original regulating function is unnecessary (no one's line voltage varies from 90 V to 130 V), one solution is to replace the ballast tube with a power resistor to drop 12V. this works fine, as does a 12V tube like a 12BY7 (with the correct warm-up characteristic even), but of course gets fairly hot.

Someone on the Boatanchors discussion group suggested a series diode in place of the resistor, but someone else "proved" that this would actually result in double the power dissipation in the oscillator-tube heater, so it was a

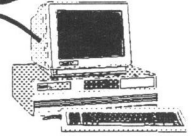
terrible idea, and shame on you for even thinking of it!

Again, the math is correct, but the assumption is wrong. Yes, the diode by itself won't drop half the voltage (it "drops" half the power) but the combination of a diode and a smaller series resistor will drop the (equivalent of the) correct 12 volts. And this smaller resistor, four-tenths of the original dropping resistor, dissipates only 4/10 as much power. So the diode *is* beneficial, in allowing a smaller and cooler-running resistor to be used. But no one does It this way.

Incidentally, the same principle applies to ballast resistors or resistance line cords in AC-DC radios. A diode avoids six-tenths of the power that would otherwise be dissipated in a substitute ballast or line cord.



## Heard on the Net



Hi fellow collectors!

Did you know that you can now shop for antique radios in your underwear - so to speak? Of course I'm talking about using the vast number of web sites that are offering **on-line auction and classified ad services**. Many of these sites have their inventory arranged by category, and many of them also have search capabilities so that you can get quite specific about what you want without having to first slog through multiple pages.

Where to start? As usual, my suggestion is to look up sites that have links to other sites by using search words such as "radio auction" or "radio on-line". The following are some finds that I thought were particularly interesting;

A site specifically designed to link to other on-line auctions:

**<http://www.usaweb.com/online.html>**

Two sites that have auctions or classifieds found by links from the above site:

"ebay"

**<http://cayman.ebay2.com/aw/index.html>**

This site contains a radio category with many collectable items, currently being bided at reasonable prices.

"Antique Radio Page"

**<http://members.aol.com/djadamson/arp.html>**

Very interesting site. Along with a classified ad section, there are pointers to over 1500 radios, many of them with pictures - a great references.

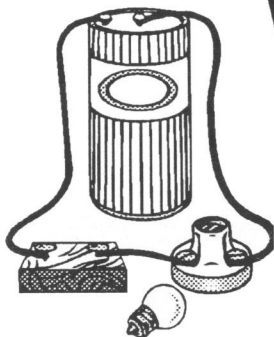
Enjoy!



# Wire Sizes and Resistance

by

Dave Gonshor, CRC Member



For those of us who are willing to go to almost any lengths to restore a device to as close to its original condition as possible, coil assemblies are a real issue. The problem arises when a replacement coil is nowhere to be found, and the only answer is to rewind the original defective one. This article describes the relationship between wire size and resistance - a most important issue when working with coils such as magnet assemblies in old horn speakers

The following chart specifies wire sizes and their resistance per 1000 feet.

Size	Res.	Size	Res.
12	1.59	14	2.53
16	4.02	18	6.39
20	10.15	22	16.14
24	25.67	26	40.81
28	64.9	30	103.2
32	164.1	34	269.9
36	414.8	38	659.6
40	1,049		

As an example, 1000 ft. of 40 AWG has 1049 ohms resistance (typical wire

gauge and resistance of a coil in a horn speaker or headphone). So, If the 40 AWG wire is replaced by 36 AWG wire, because this is the size you happen to have handy, the following happens: The cross sectional area of 40 AWG is  $7.77E-6$  sq in. The cross sectional area of 36 AWG is  $19.63E-6$  sq in. When wound on a bobbin, the total length of windings will scale roughly with the area of each turn. So, the 36 AWG will have approximately  $1000 \text{ ft.} \times 7.77E-6 / 19.63E-6 = 396 \text{ ft.}$  (instead of 1000 ft. of the 40 AWG). The resistance is then  $414.8 \text{ ohms}/1000 \text{ ft.} \times 396 / 1000 = 164 \text{ ohms.}$  So, rewinding a bobbin with 36 AWG instead of 40 AWG will reduce the resistance from 1000 ohms to 164 ohms. This will have a very significant effect on an output circuit where the speaker (or headphone) is plugged in.

This is very close to my actual experience. 40 AWG wire is hard to find and hard to work with. Going to 36 AWG is hardly acceptable due to the significantly lower DC resistance the coil would present to the circuit. Using 38 AWG would result in 415 ohms, which is somewhat better.

# *Radio of the Month*



**Stromberg-Carlson**

Model 231-R Chairside, 1937  
Owned by Larry Weide, CRC Member



# Collecting Radio Related Items

by

Barney Wooters, CRC Member

As most of us are aware by now, the "good" radios just keep increasing in price. So why not consider collecting items which are associated with these vintage radios we all know and love?

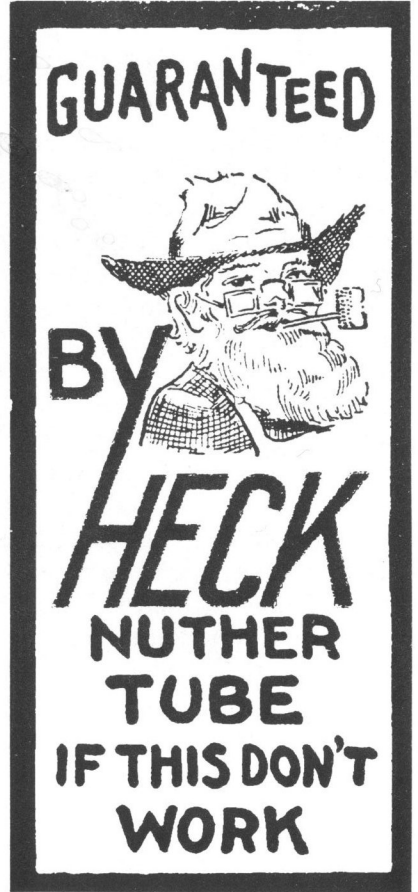
When I began collecting radios in the early 1960's, a good A-K model 10 Breadboard would cost you anywhere from \$35 to \$50. I was once offered a Scott Philharmonic, complete and functional, for \$35. It was too big, so I turned it down. My own collecting, saving and accumulating activities began about ten years earlier with vacuum tubes. I liked the "pretty" blue glass ones, the shiny silvered ones and the ones with unusual shapes - anything that looked "old".

Now take time to think of all the things associated with radio from its beginning. What might spark your interest? How about the old A, B and C batteries by Eveready, Burgess, Ray-O-Vac, Bond and Bright Star among others. Also, there were those batteries which carried store-brand names like Gamble-Skagmo, Wannamaker, etc. Then there were all of the magazines and advertising - many with unusual (and sometimes questionable) claims. There were dealer sales aides, point-of-sale displays and

the ever-present "give-aways" such as match-books, pencils, cigarette lighters and station logging charts to name a few. How about radio humor? Look in almost any old radio magazine to see things such as radios dancing, singing or appearing to be sick. Even test equipment got in to the act: "No lazy radio tubes can fool this tester". Another thing which comes to mind is the subtle humor of the MUTER grid-leak drip-pan. This was a very small metal pan or tray which could be suspended under the grid-leak resistor in your early battery set to catch "anything" which might drip out of it. I have a new-old-stock 201-A tube with the name "By Heck", and showing an old farmer on the box. I suppose this was to appeal to Uncle Josh and others who were "down on the farm" at the time.

Ever take a close look at ceramic and glass insulators? These came in a variety of sizes, colors and styles. Combine some of these with glass and porcelain lightening arrestors and you have an interesting display which is not too costly and doesn't require much room.

These are just some of the things you might consider if you decide that a "Walton Zenith", Grebe CR-9, Spartan Blue Mirror are, at least for now, just out of your buying range. But then, there is always that next garage sale....



"By Heck" tube carton



# Meet the Collector

*Neil Gallensky*

by

Larry Weide, CRC Member

Psst, don't breathe a word, but I have a sneaky trick to let you in on. As some of you know, I'm always looking for input for articles that appear in the "Flash!". So, one way to get what I need is to lurk around, wait for some good-hearted soul to

assume a position of responsibility, then pounce on that person to sign-up for an article. Good form just doesn't allow them to refuse (hee-hee).

In any case, I approached our new club president, Neil Gallensky, and asked him if I could highlight him and his collection for this issue's "Meet the Collector" article. With a nod and a grin (hmmm, was that a cha-grin?) he most graciously accepted.

So now to work. Sunday afternoon I drag out my ole Kodak, I stop and pick up a roll of film, and I'm on my way to Neil's place. It's up to north/west Denver, into a cozy community in Westminster with a beautiful panoramic view of the mountains and up to the door of Neil's home.

Maybe I'm getting old, but I had the vision of all bachelors living in some kind of one-room flat, strewn with empty beer bottles and festooned with various unmentionables acquired from oft told alleged

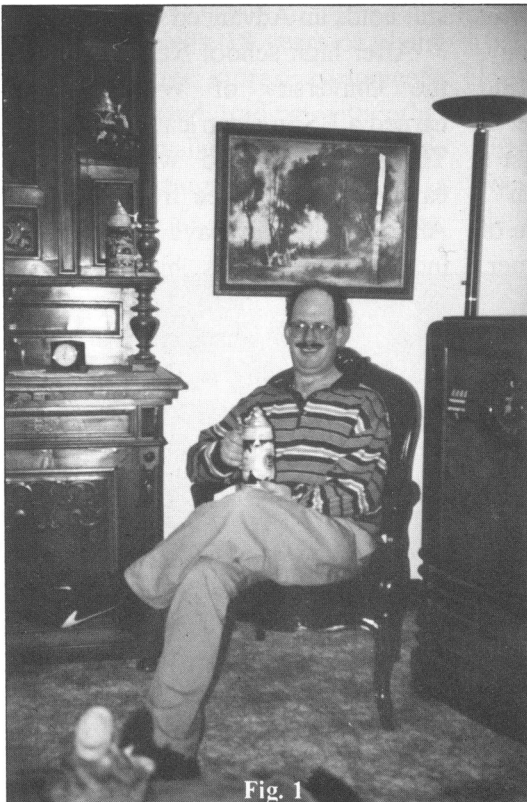


Fig. 1

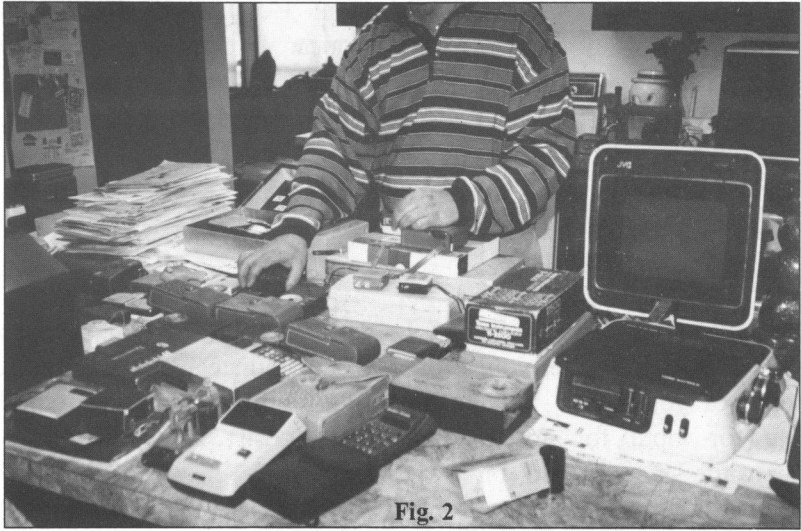


Fig. 2

conquests. Not. Neil's home is spacious, warm and decorated with an artistic touch. However, one day, as in the case of my long suffering wife, someone is going to have to accept the fact that radios are just a natural part of any fine home decor!

Ah yes, fig. 1 shows the Squire of the manor relaxed in a cozy corner, enjoying a libation along side one of his new finds - a fine Zenith console.

But before we do a "virtual" walk around and enjoy Neil's collection, let me tell you a bit about the man. Neil was born in Cheyenne Wyoming where his parents still live. Perhaps it's no surprise that he is the son of an engineer, and that before his fifth birthday Neil was already playing with wires and batteries. By the time he was ten he was into building kits and projects. By the age of thirteen he had his Ham license and was on

the air with a 75 watt CW rig - he still holds an Advanced Class license.

After high school Neil enrolled in the University of Wyoming and earned a BS in electrical engineering. Then, not satisfied with that, he earned a MS degree from CalTech. Although he did have a few other inconsequential jobs, his only "real" employer has been (and still is) AT&T, which has since become Lucent Technologies. Neil started as a circuit designer for Bell Labs, and now manages an engineering group.

In 1980, while still in college, a family friend offered him a Philco 38-7 for \$20. Not knowing that radio collecting contagion is always found on the surface of any radio older than about 40 years of age, Neil accepted the offer and firmly grasped his newly acquired treasure. Poor Neil. It wasn't long after that, as he puts it, that he really "got into

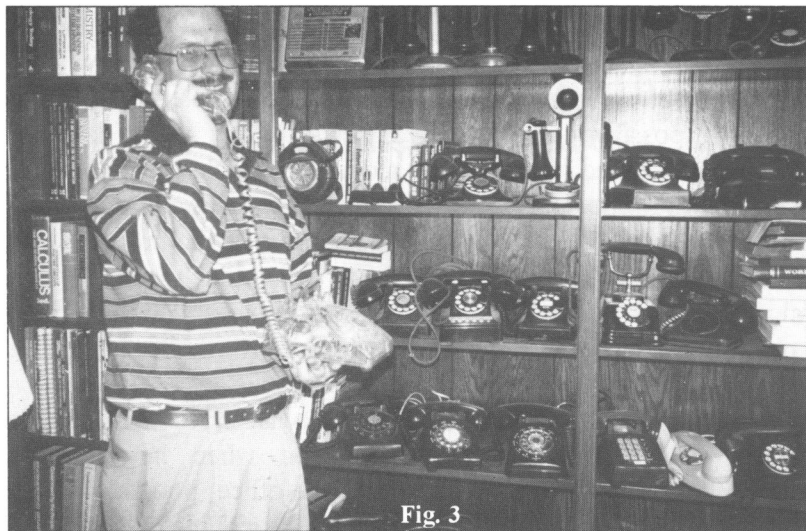


Fig. 3

it" - fanatically collecting antique radios and such, that is.

So, after Neil's 18 years of plying through antique stores, swapmeets, flea markets and trading with other collectors, I walked into his home to find him sorting and cataloging a small part of his fine collection (fig.

2), ready to be placed in the about to be finished basement radio museum.

Although it's obvious when you look around, Neil did tell me that the focus of his collecting is primarily sub-miniature radios - mostly transistor models. Yet, there's definitely an eclectic touch to his

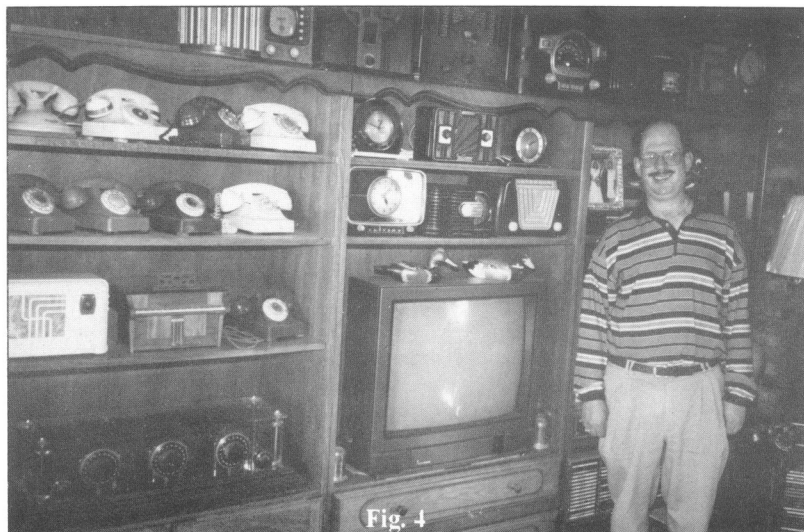


Fig. 4

collection as well. Take another look at this month's cover. Here we see an early 20's Clearfield Model TRF6RC - possibly the first production glass cased radio ever made. Then too you see a very classy Zenith Model 5R317 "Glass Rod". And who wouldn't covet the General Television "Piano". The cover picture also shows a Standard Micronic "Ruby", a Sinclair Clairtone, a "Tiny Tim" and perhaps the smallest of all radios up to that time, the Zenith RD-14 sub-mini that never went into actual production. Finally, there's a very rare Raytheon T100-3 with it's original packaging.

As we amble upstairs and downstairs we see that radios aren't the only thing that Neil collects. Fig. 3 shows a sample of his telephone technology collection. Sure enough, he even has an old plugwire

exchange board in one of the upstairs rooms. Did you know that old electronic calculators are a big collector's item these days? Yup, along with clocks, Neil collects these as well.

Fig. 4 is a picture of a shelf of great radios that would be welcome in anyone's collection (but not necessarily with that kid standing off to one side!).

So, what does this guy do for relaxation when he comes home from the office, pooped and just too beat to "work" his collection? Well, just take a look at fig. 5 to see a picture worth a thousand words.

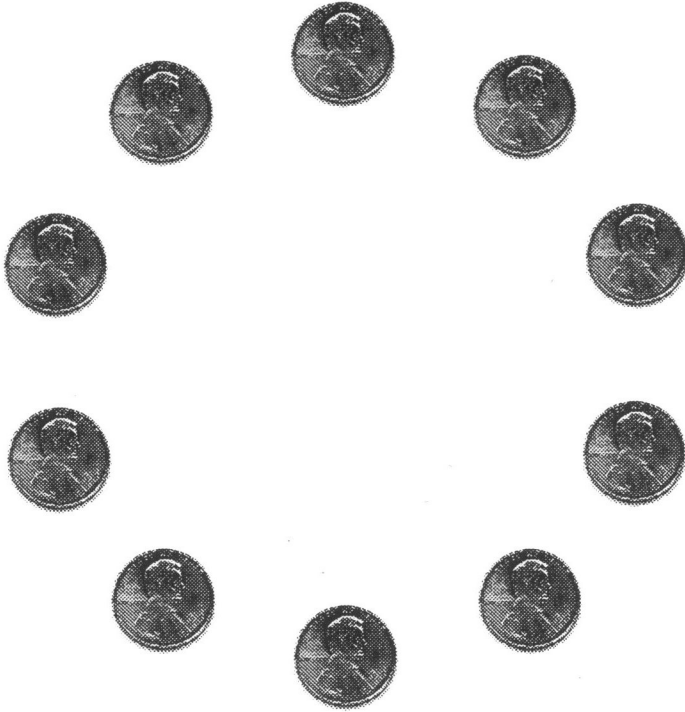


Fig. 5



# "Pozer" of the Month

by Larry Weide, CRC Member



Here's something you can do while listening to your favorite "hollow-state" radio. Actually, this is as much of a game as it is a puzzle. Take ten pennies and arrange them in a circle as shown above. Players take turns removing one or two of them. But if two are taken they must *be next to each other*, with no pennies or open spaces between them. The person who takes the last penny is the winner.

Now the puzzle part; If both sides play rationally, who is sure to win and how?

The answer is on page 24.

# "Pozer" of the Month Answer

**The second player, if using the following two-part strategy, can always win this game.**

1. After the first player has removed one or two pennies, there will be a single gap somewhere in the circle. The second player now takes either one or two pennies from the opposite side of the circle so that the pennies that are left are divided into two equal groups.
2. From now on, whatever the first player takes from one group, the second player takes the corresponding penny or pennies from the other group.

# " The Open Trunk "

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**Mark your calendars!**  
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