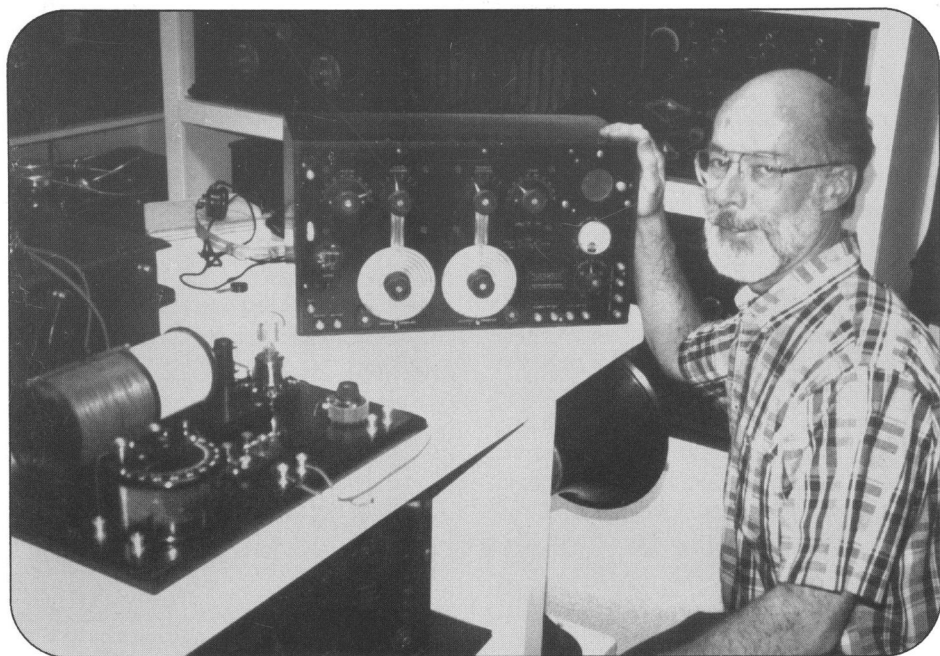


# The Colorado Radio Collectors Antique Radio Club

# FLASH!

Volume 9      July      ☺      August      1998      Issue 4



## *In This Issue...*

- ◆ Bulkwalter Radios ◆ CRC Annual Show Results ◆ Internet Page ◆
- ◆ Meet the Collector ◆ Picnic Announcement ◆

## ABOUT THE COVER

In terms of wireless radio, Tom Pouliot's Amrad Model SE1420 ca. 1919 is one of the Denver's great finds. Actually found by Dave Gonshor, the radio was sold to Tom who now covets it along side other early items in his fine collection. If you'll turn to page 19 you too can meet this dedicated collector.

## The Coloradio Collectors Antique Radio Club

### C.R.C. 1998 Officers

<b>President</b>	Neil Gallensky Westminster (303) 466-0976
<b>Vice Pres.</b>	Tom Kelley Boulder (303) 444-1837
<b>Treasurer</b>	Robert Bauman Lakewood (303) 988-2089
<b>Publisher</b>	Larry Weide Englewood (303) 758-8382
<b>Archives,</b>	Charles Brett
<b>Book Sales</b>	Colorado Spgs (719) 495-8660

**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 Treasurer, Robert Baumann, 1985 S. Cape Way, Lakewood CO 80227 (303)988-2089

**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.

**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.

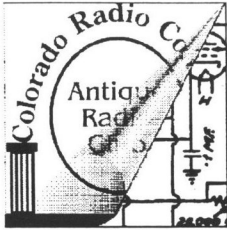
**Publishing Deadlines:** All submissions must be submitted by the 1st of Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct and Dec. for publishing in the following months.

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

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### Upcoming 1998 CRC Events

Regular Meeting - July 12th, Picnic - July 26th, Auction - September 13th



# 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 4

July/August 1998

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# A CHAT WITH THE PRESIDENT

## If I throw the card, will I break a window?

by Neil Gallensky, CRC President

Summer is here again. It's so difficult to believe that my term as President is nearly three-quarters complete. It has been a wonderful experience for me working with all of you and serving our organization, and I look forward to our upcoming fair weather "showcase" club events, including our July picnic and September auction.

We had a very busy and fast paced May meeting. Thanks to all of you who attended! We started the meeting with a very special presentation of the CRC Exemplary Service Award to Dick Hagrman for his unfailing service to our club in many capacities (including President, Treasurer, and show and auction manager). Thanks, Dick, and we salute you!

New club officers were elected, who will assume their duties in November. Henry Lamb is our new President Elect (who will become President in November 1999), and Robert Baumann will continue as our club treasurer. Tom Kelley, our current President Elect becomes our President this November. Congratulations to our new officers. I'm confident that you will support them in the same way you have supported me. And to our newly elected officers: thanks for your commitment to serving our organization!

Also, we held an informal "post mortem" for our May show, and declared the show to be a success. Special thanks to Tom Kelley, our show chairman, and to Larry Weide who presided over the registration of contest entries and the contest judging process. We discussed opportunities to improve the show, and Tom Kelley will be chairing a committee to generate some possible ideas and make specific proposals back to our club.

Additionally at our May meeting, we put plans in place for our July 26 picnic at the Belmar Museum which is detailed in this issue of the Flash, and also began the planning process for our September auction. Dave Tripe graciously volunteered to be our auction chairman.

Riggs Smith is the winner of the Antique Radio Classified subscription for the next year. (which our club receives in trade for sending the ARC a copy of the Flash - special thanks to John Terry, ARC publisher). Our raffle of miscellaneous items (also known as "stuff", "treasures", "unique items" or "junque") was our most successful ever in raising funds for our treasury. A special thanks to those of you who donated items to our raffle, and congratulations to the winners!

Charlie Brett brought along many new titles of radio books and price guides, which the CRC sells to members at a very substantial discount. Sales were brisk, and many of the new books appear to be of high quality. Don't forget to check whether a book is available through the club before paying full price at your local retailer.

On to other topics, do any of our club members plan to attend any of the major national radio events this summer? The Michigan, Elgin (Illinois) and Rochester meets are among those with the largest attendance and best "opportunities" to find that rare treasure or sell that truckload of extra "stuff". If any of you have the opportunity to attend another club's "meet" this summer, please consider writing a Flash article or making a presentation at a club meeting so that we can share vicariously in your "adventures".

I'd also like to thank those of you who have volunteered to coordinate, take a leadership role, or pitch-in to support various club events and activities, including our Spring show, picnic, auction, book sales, creating our new membership brochure, and facilitating two museum shows. Without your volunteer spirit and dedication, these events and activities simply would not happen, and our club would not provide many of the benefits or services to our members and the public which you expect. There are many opportunities in our club for additional volunteer support of existing activities or creation of new club sponsored events. This club is what you, the members, make of it. If you would like to make your experience as a CRC member even more fun and rewarding, please consider offering to support or sponsor a club activity.

This month, I close my column with a continuation of the discussion on "future collectibles" from my May President's Column. I'd like to dust off the ole crystal ball and speculate on what items I expect to be highly collectible in the fields of radio and closely related areas of electronic technology 10 years from now. My "top ten list":

**Number 10:** Portable 8 track players, especially those with pronounced 1960's styling and "hot" colors.

**Number 9:** Early walkie talkies, especially those that have attractive styling and were made in the 1950's through the 70's. I might lump high quality portable and hand-held Citizens Band (CB) radios and amateur radios into this category.

**Number 8:** Ultra small, pocket-sized reel-to-reel tape players from the 1960's. Remember the one shown in the opening sequence of the Mission Impossible TV series?

**Number 7:** High quality Walkman-type pocket radios and tape players, especially those from Sony

**Number 6:** Early tube and transistor hearing aids  
**Number 5:** High quality "luggable" AM/FM/cassette "boom boxes". Some of these were marvels of technology in the mid 1970's. Remember that people covet the treasured items from their youth!

**Number 4:** High quality portable multi band (short wave) receivers from the 1960's and 1970's, given that Zenith TransOceanic sets continue to rise in price and will become nearly impossible to find in the future

**Number 3:** High style 1950's and 1960's clock radios. These are already becoming quite difficult to locate in good condition. Watch for the flip-type digital clocks and clock radios to get some attention; these may become surprisingly scarce since they were only made for a few years, and many of them are ending up at the dump.

**Number 2:** Pocket calculators, especially the earliest models sold from 1970-73 (some of these cost \$400 new in 1970!), and the "off-brands" from manufacturers who have long since ceased to be in business. Also, Hewlett Packard models will continue to be highly collectible. And, a drum roll please. . . .

**Number 1:** Miniature pocket sized and high-style 1960's through early 1980's television sets, especially those manufactured by Sony, JVC, Seiko, and Panasonic. Prices for these have already shot up astronomically in the last year!

Additional items which didn't make my list which are worthy of consideration include: **high-style 1950's tube radios**, especially those with gaudy colors and a space age or atomic theme; **ultra miniature radios** including credit card sized units and wrist watch radios; early digital wrist watches - the ones that have displays that light up; and **character radios** from the 1960's to the 1990's (especially those depicting **Disney** themes, various popular cartoon characters, and comic book heroes). I have also chosen not to include some items that "obviously" will continue to be sought after (examples: Catalins, mirrored sets, transistors, pocket tube portables, Zenith black dial sets, breadboards, and the list goes on. . . .)

Now, for my disclaimer: I do NOT guarantee that you will be able to retire on the income you might generate from procuring the items on my list while they're still available inexpensively. And those that pack away or hoard items that they really don't understand or appreciate are often missing the true fun in collecting. But, on the other hand, if you do pass these items by as possible future collectibles, I do reserve the right to say, "I told you so!"

Neil

# The 1998 CRC Annual Radio Show and Sale Results

A report by Tom Kelley, CRC VP & Event Coordinator

Well, it's that time of year again - the late, great Radio Show and Sale of 1998 has come and gone. So, how did it go? It was bad and it was good.

The bad part was our very poor location, low show turnout and our costs which were almost double that of last year.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>%DIF.</u>
Peak Promotions	\$316	398	+26
Awards	107	154	+43
Misc. Exp.	33	22	-33
Food	65	54	-16
Total Exp.	537	650	+21
Table Rev.	199	80	-60
<b>Net Cost</b>	<b>338</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>+69</b>

So what can we do to improve this? At the May meeting I gave a short talk on the show, and a few suggestions have already been offered. They are:

- Press Peak Promotions harder for a better location - and do it now.
- Have shows at shopping malls
- Hook up with a train club show.

Any ideas that anyone might have would be greatly appreciated. Fell free to call me or write down your ideas and send them to me. I will be meeting soon with the show committee members to brainstorm some ideas into reality.

Now for the good news! The show, despite it's problems, was a success. For example, we had a very good display of quality radios that ranged from ca. 1914 to the mid 1960's. We had a complete 1917 wireless radio plus wireless components dating from 1914-1919, a good display of early radio and television picture tubes dating from about 1920 to about 1930, a wide range of battery radios sets from the 1920's, a wide array of cathedral radios from the early 1930's plus tombstone radios from the same era. We also had a number of plastic, Catalin and bakelite radios from the 1940's to the 1950's, plus a display of plastic table and clock radios from the 1950's to early 1960's. We also had a good display of transistor radios in all colors and sizes.

Our featured radio category this year was Motorola, and we had some good examples of them at the show. It was quite a show! Thanks to all of you who brought radios and related items for display and show. We had quite a few contest winners.

In closing I would like to thank the following people for their hard work and support;

- Snacks Jim McCutcheon
- Computer work Larry Weide
- Radio transmitter David Kullback
- Postcards Richard Beckman
- Awards Neil Gallensky
- Table covers/signs Jerry Tynan
- Finances Robert Baumann and Dick Hagrman
- Radio sellers (For drawing in the crowd)
- Judges of the radio contest

## Radio Contest Results

<b>BEST OF SHOW</b>	- Barney Wooters , Sparton 1176, 1935
<b>PEOPLE'S CHOICE</b>	- Barney Wooters , Sparton 1176, 1935
<b>BEST RESTORATION</b>	- Dave Boyle, Philco 90, 1931



Judging points are based on rarity, uniqueness, presentation, interior condition and exterior condition. Although it is generally known that criteria values are weighted in favor of an item's condition, the judges, in fact, have no knowledge of any of the actual criteria values. The result format is, (continued next page)



<b>Category:</b>	<b>Participant</b>	<b>Item Description, Mfg. Date</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Category Award</b>
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**Accessories:**

Barney Wooters	Chambers Lose Coupler, 1917	475	1st
Otis Chartier	Webster Chicago 178-1, 1948	430	2nd

**Art Deco:**

Dan Busetti	RCA 96X13, 1939	425	1st
Larry Weide	Automatic Tom Thumb Jr, 1933	405	2nd

**Bakelite:**

Bruce Young	Sonora WAU243, 1939	500	1st
Bruce Young	Coronado 43-8190, 1947	480	2nd
Jerry Tynan	Silvertone 6103, 1938	465	3rd
Jerry Tynan	General Television 5, 1940	440	

**Battery - 1926-1930:**

Leamon Brooks	Fada Neutrodyne, 1926	500	1st
Leamon Brooks	Sleeper Serenader, 1926	480	2nd

**Cathedral:**

Otis Chartier	Aztec, 1932	370	1st
Jerry Tynan	Philco 70, 1931	360	2nd
Bruce Young	Jackson Bell 62, 1932	335	3rd
Dave Boyle	Philco 90, 1931	300	
Bruce Young	Imperial, 1934	220	

**Communication Gear:**

Bob Stutzman	Motorola AirBoy, 1945	405	1st
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**Console - Full Length:**

Barney Wooters ,	Sparton 1176, 1935	500	1st
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**Console - High/Low Boy:**

Jerry Tynan	Philco 19LZ, 1932	390	1st
Jerry Tynan	Atwater Kent 60, 1929	215	2nd

**Crystal Set:**

Dave Boyle	Western Mfg Tinytone, 1950	445	1st
Jerry Tynan	Howe Crystal Set	355	2nd
Dave Boyle	Western Mfg Midget, 1948	330	3rd
Tom Pouliot	Hombrew Crystal set, 1914	320	
Tom Pouliot	Hombrew Crystal set, 1918	320	

**Metal Case:**

Otis Chartier	Temple G418, 1947	405	1st
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**Novelty - Transistor:**

Jack Matox	Bumber Radio, 1990	400	1st
Jerry Tynan	Butterfly Radio	380	2nd

**Plastic - Tube:**

Dan Busetti	Philco 49-503, 1949	415	1st
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**Portable - Post 1925:**

Neil Gallensky	Emerson 747, 1953	485	1st
Neil Gallensky	Westinghouse H508P4, 1954	465	2nd
Neil Gallensky	National Pocket Super 1953	395	3rd
Neil Gallensky	Hallicrafters, 1955	380	
Neil Gallensky	Silverton 4212, 1954	345	
Dave Boyle	RCA B411, 1951	305	
Bob Stuzman	Motorola 53LC3, 1953	290	

**Pre 1925:**

Bob Jensen	Atwater Kent 10C, 1924	485	1st
Barney Wooters	Kennedy 220/525, 1921	465	2nd
Tom Pouliot	DeForrest D12, 1924	430	3rd
Barney Wooters	Federal 200, 1922	415	
Tom Pouliot	Murdock 100, 1924	400	
Bob Jensen	Atwater Kent 49, 1928	390	
Leamon Brooks	Grebe CR9, 1923	370	
Barney Wooters	Zenith 3R, 1923	350	

**Speakers:**

Barney Wooters	Magnavox MR1, 1920	420	1st
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**Specialty Brand - Motorola:**

Otis Chartier	Motorola 68L11, 1948	460	1st
Bruce Young	Motorola 80XA2, 1939	405	2nd
Bruce Young	Motorola 64-B, 1939	390	3rd
Bob Stutzman	Motorola 5X12U, 1950	335	
Bob Stutzman	Motorola 5T, 1937	315	
Tom Kelley	Motorola 5C16NW, 1958	285	

**Tombstone:**

Bruce Young	Grunow 500, 1934	305	1st
Leamon Brooks	Pilot 84, 1934	215	2nd
Bruce Young	Admiral 551, 1937	215	3rd
Larry Weide	Sparton 616, 1935	150	

**Trransistor:**

Neil Gallensky	Motorola X21W, 1961	380	1st
Neil Gallensky	Candle STR-80, 1962	380	2nd
Neil Gallensky	Motorola CX2N, 1963	355	3rd
Neil Gallensky	Zenith Royal 500H, 1962	355	
Jerry Tynan	Regency TR1, 1954	350	
Neil Gallensky	Toshiba TR-193, 1958	345	
Neil Gallensky	Regency TR-1 black, 1954	335	
Neil Gallensky	Vista, 1962	330	
Bob Stutzman	Sony ICR200, 1970	325	
Neil Gallensky	Motorola X11R, 1959	310	
Neil Gallensky	Motorola 6X32, 1957	300	
Neil Gallensky	Regency TR-1 green, 1954	290	
Neil Gallensky	Zenith Royal 7000, 1980	290	
Neil Gallensky	Seminole TR-221, 1963	280	
Jerry Tynan	LaFayette FS-91, 1961	275	
Neil Gallensky	Motorola 56T1, 1956	245	
Neil Gallensky	Motorola 6X31, 1957	230	

**Tube/Parts Display:**

Barney Wooters	Tube Display	500	1st
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**Wooden - Line Powered:**

Bruce Young	Stewart Waner 07-5R4, 1940	355	1st
Larry Weide	Truetone D711, 1938	335	2nd
Bruce Young	Kemper SG7, 1930	330	3rd
Tom Pouliot	Stromberg Carlson 635, 1928	260	

**No Judging - Display Only:**

Barney Wooters	Western Electric 387, 1924		
Bruce Young	Homebrew Crystal set		
Tom Kelley	GE T103A, 1961		
Tom Kelley	GE C451A, 1959		
Tom Kelley	GE T138A, 1961		
Tom Kelley	GE C403G, 1963		
Tom Kelley	GE P675A, 1958		
Tom Kelley	GE 128C, 1959		
Tom Kelley	GE T126G, 1961		
Tom Kelley	GE T140A, 1958		
Tom Kelley	GE T141A, 1958		
Tom Kelley	Philco J84G-124, 1960		
Jerry Tynan	Fada 1000, 1946		



The early 20's section of the display/contest radios



# 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 and deleted items.

	Retail	Club
<b>RADIOS, (GENUINE PLASTIC) OF THE MID CENTURY</b> Jupp & Pina, hard bound, 219 pgs, 1998 PG, 450+ color pics	\$39.95	\$26.00
<b>ANTIQUA RADIO, 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... - 2nd EDITION</b> Johnson, 277 pgs, 1995-96 prices	\$19.95	\$14.00
<b>ANTIQUA RADIO RESTORATION GUIDE - 2rd EDITION</b> Johnson, 144 pgs, repairing, refinishing, cleaning	\$14.95	\$11.00
<b>BAKELITE RADIOS</b> Hawes, hard bound, 128 pgs, history, color pics, descr.	\$12.95	\$11.00
<b>RADIO, EVOLUTION OF THE - VOLUME ONE</b> 227 pgs, 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 pgs, 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>ZENITH TRANSISTOR RADIOS, 1995-1965</b> Smith, 1998 PG, 160 pgs, 226 color pics, info, descr.	\$19.95	\$14.00
<b>ZENITH RADIOS THE EARLY YEARS 1919-1936, Cones</b> 1997-98 Price Guide, 223 pgs, 100's Photos, Desc., Hist.	\$29.95	\$20.00
<b>RADIOS BY HALLICRAFTERS</b> Dachis, 1996 values, 220 pgs, 1000+ pics, id's, history	\$29.95	\$20.00
<b>CLASSIC TV'S, PRE-WAR THRU 1950'S</b> 86 pgs, 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 pgs, 100's photos	\$24.95	\$17.00
<u>Machine Age to Jet Age</u> , Radiomania's Table Radio Guide 'II, 30-'59 Stein, 358 pgs, 100's photos	\$28.95	\$20.00

'See you at the....



# CRC Picnic

Sunday July 26th 1:00pm  
Lakewood's Historical Village  
West Side Of The Museum Barn  
- Wadsworth & Ohio, Lakewood -

- \* Bring your family, sig. other, whoever
- \* Bring your own main course/meat
- \* Bring something to share, i.e. salad
- \* Drinks and paper goods provided
- \* Swapmeet in the parking lot

# Buckwalter Supertone, a Colorado Radio?



by

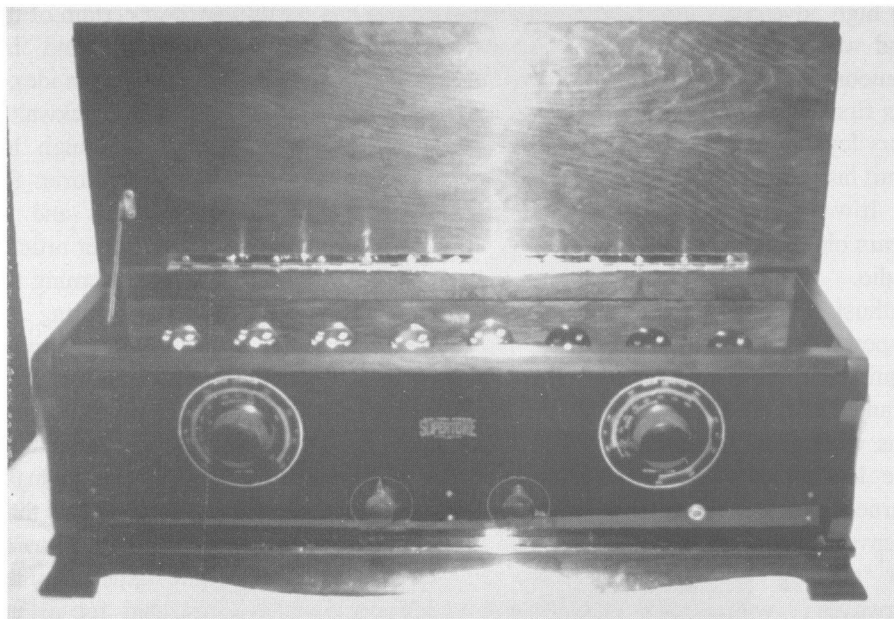
Wayne Gilbert, CRC Member



Few would dispute that Harry Hale Buckwalter was a true Coloradan, a favorite son in fact, but it could be considered a real stretch to identify Buckwalter Radios as a Colorado brand. The only surviving Buckwalter Radio that has been located was manufactured

radios, although the truth may be that any Buckwalter radios made in Colorado were garage assembled and unidentifiable from the hundreds of other home built radios made at the time.

Henry Buckwalter was born in November, 1867, in Reading,



in Chicago, but as Harry would have said, "it's got the Buckwalter name and imagination and that makes it a Coloradan." It's with that same audacity and because Buckwalter Supertone radios reflect his flair for innovation that the Buckwalter Radios are included in this series of articles about Colorado

Pennsylvania, but by 1884 he had moved to Colorado Springs where he began a career that included intervals as a printer, photographer, movie maker, newspaperman, and experimenter. It's his ability as a photographer for whom he is best remembered today, but it was his work in early movie making that

made him a Denver celebrity in his time. He had both the eye of an artist and the inquisitiveness of a scientist, each trait an admirable quality, but in combination they created a personality in him that was described by his peers as "very colorful" and a type of disposition that was likely to be abrasive to others.

He rapidly gained success and prominence as a photographer, and this part of his life was filled with such escapades as photographing the opening of the Panama Canal and capturing aerial photographic scenes of Colorado from a hot air balloon, both considered as high adventures at the time. He met and was admired by some of the most famous celebrities across the world, but his first love was Colorado, remaining a very loyal and vocal booster for the state until his death.

It was only after Harry had turned 50 years old that he developed an interest in radio. With typical Buckwalter enthusiasm and vigor he was soon experimenting with the latest in equipment and techniques and was granted the official call letters 9XAG. His willingness to be audacious and on the leading edge of technology soon earned him a reputation with others in Denver's fledgling radio community as an "air hog" who nightly tied up the airwaves with his experimental transmissions.

When Harry learned the Denver Post had arranged for nationally renowned opera singer Frieda Hempel to visit Denver, he arranged to meet her and quickly persuaded her to broadcast a few of her favorite songs from his home transmitting site. The idea was scorned

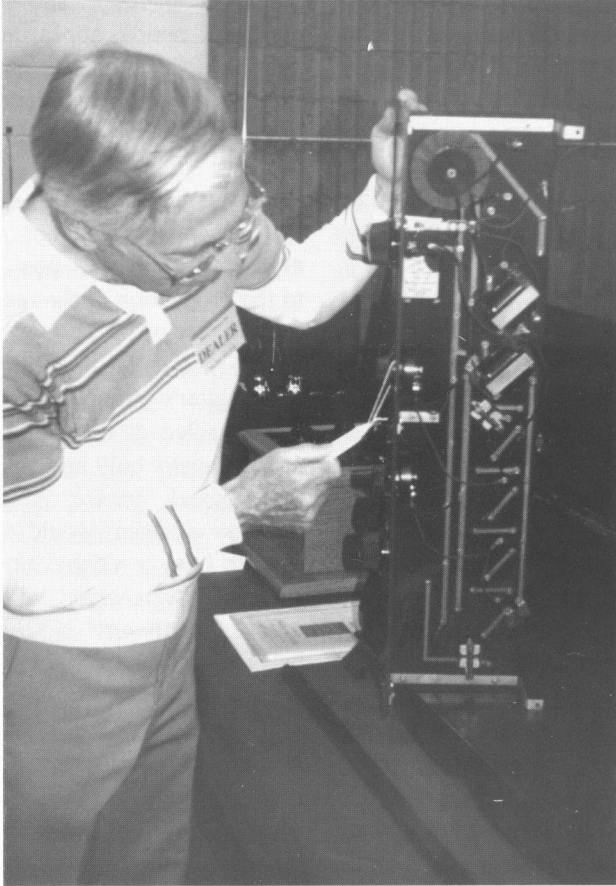
as simply a promotional gimmick by some in Denver's radio community, but to the public Ms. Hempel's radio concert was a tremendous success, and from it Harry gained the enduring reputation as one of Denver's leading radio experts. From that time on, he eagerly sought opportunities to voice his opinion on all aspects of the radio phenomenon, often writing open letters to the newspapers explaining radio's latest changes and innovations or challenging some new government regulation being made to regulate the airways. Some of these letters show his discontent with the design and performance of certain of the radios being manufactured, and his desire to build radios to reflect his ideas.

It is at this point the Buckwalter Radio mystery begins. Although his name appears in the city directories for Denver throughout the 1920s and he voiced his opinions in newspaper articles and letters on all matters concerning the emerging radio phenomena during the 20s, I have not been able to positively identify any radio that he manufactured. Some photos of radios imply they were made by him, but close examination discloses enough discrepancies to make them suspect. There is also the fact that, although he is constantly referred to as Denver's resident radio expert by the newspapers and is credited for selling radios from his home in 1921, he lists his business as a radio manufacturer for only the years 1923 and 1925. A further check of the business directories of the time lists no employees of the Buckwalter Radio Company and the business's address is his home address.



Coincidentally ( if you believe in coincidences), it is during the mid-1920s that a Clarence Buckwalter began manufacturing Buckwalter brand radios in Chicago. The first possible connection between Chicago's Clarence Buckwalter and Denver's Harry Buckwalter is that Clarence Buckwalter came to Chicago from Reading,

Little is known of the earliest radios manufactured by either Buckwalter, but by 1925 Clarence (in Chicago) had a large enough manufacturing company to list its employees in the city directory. Clarence had also formed an agreement with the Supertone radio company of Chicago to produce a radio model bearing the Buckwalter name along with



Pennsylvania, Harry's hometown. Analysis of both families' genealogy does not prove or disprove they were relatives, but there is more than enough other evidence to make the family connection a plausible one.

other models he was currently selling. It is also during this period that Denver's Harry Buckwalter was his most vocal with his opinions of radio industry and many of the design improvements he

championed were found in the Buckwalter-Supertone radio.

Other Buckwalter radio models are listed in the various collectors guides, but not as being manufactured prior to 1925, and none are definitely traceable to either Buckwalter, although Denver's papers imply that Harry had at least the vision if not the facilities, while Chicago documents seem to prove that Clarence had the facilities, if not the vision. Could they have combined resources and produced the Buckwalter Supertone, or was the Supertone Company simply the lowest bidder Clarence could find to manufacture Denver's Harry Buckwalter radios, while keeping it from being manufactured in his plant?

To make the mystery more intriguing, the 1925 Supertone Buckwalter radio is a radio burdened with bearing a dual personality or, more appropriately perhaps, personalities. From the very first there were examples of this duality of purpose reflected in the radio. For example, while the logical and scientific part of Harry Buckwalter's nature would have wanted this radio designed to reflect his view of proper radio technology, the artistic and audacious side of his personality insisted the set be very distinctive and display the Buckwalter name prominently across the front panel and have only Buckwalter brand tubes lining the chassis. Further, the radio utilizes very innovative visionary radio technology, while seeming to see the technology for its beauty, instead of its functionality. Was this radio a result of Denver's Harry Buckwalter's dual intelligence, a combination of both

innovative ingenuity and poor engineering, or was it built by Chicago's Clarence Buckwalter, supported by Harry's financial aid and name recognition?

When the Buckwalter/Supertone radio was released in 1925, it sported a modern superheterodyne circuit and the name Super Audible Heterodyne across the front panel. The small "patent pending" notice appearing below the name and the slight variation on RCA's trade name of Superheterodyne may have been seen as a way to avoid having to pay RCA's license fee for using RCA's patented superhet circuit in a set that obviously was not a kit. This awareness of RCA's possible challenge to the production of the radio seems also to be reflected in the use of Buckwalter brand tubes. Although Harry Buckwalter's flamboyant nature may have thrilled at having his name on a professionally built and innovative radio, his logical nature, and Clarence's business acumen, would have seen the need to have a reliable supply of tubes, since RCA was widely known to stop its tube sales to any radio manufacturer believed to be infringing upon RCA patents.

Even the set's name, Super Audible Heterodyne, was quite possibly the result of the Buckwalter's compromise between the flamboyant and the practical. The name may only have been chosen because it sounded appealing to Harry's artistic sense, but it could also have been acceptable to Clarence because of its technical connotations. He could have accepted the name because he realized it could mean the set's circuit

employed an intermediate frequency in the range of 33-45 kc range to those buyers who were more technically oriented, while Harry would have also approved of this use of low IF frequency (with iron core transformers) because it would have resulted in a set with a better range of sensitivity, thereby eliminating one of the shortcomings he saw in other sets currently on the market.

Another aspect of the dual personality of this radio was the use of very high minimum to maximum ratio Remler tuning capacitors. These differed from more conventional tuning capacitors in their 2-rotor/no-stator construction, an innovation that reduced the capacitor's physical size while increasing the number of its plates. This high plate count increased the possible selectivity of any radio they were used in. However, in this radio, the capacitors retained the older linear wavelength shape and the conventional 200-600 meter scale tuning knobs, rather than the more modern linear frequency shape. Paradoxically, the loop tuning' capacitor knob was equipped with a secondary scale graduated with the more modern kilocycle range. (During this period Colorado's broadcasting stations were undergoing the first of several frequency reassignments, and letters written by Harry Buckwalter to the newspapers and trade journals indicated his awareness of these changes and the implications they foretold).

Although this radio was equipped with Buckwalter 201A tubes, it was advertised to be designed to utilize

automobile storage batteries for its filament power. The problem of matching the tubes' five-volt filament requirements to a six-volt storage battery source was solved with a rheostat which dropped the filament supply to all tubes simultaneously. In what seems to be another indication of the radio's dual personality and poor design, no provisions were made for a built-in battery eliminator, in spite of the increasing public demand for light socket powered sets.

The final design paradox of this set is that it employed a type of printed circuit. The chassis was made from a Bakelite type of material and had traces milled into its lower surface. These traces were filled with a copper paste for conductivity, and components were connected to (and through) the filled traces with small bolts and electrical eyelets. This design was certainly unique and created by an imaginative mind, while a logical and practical manufacturer's logic would have recognized it was likely to have been cheaper to manufacture and less prone to wiring errors than conventional hand wired sets. While the bolt-eyelet connecting points would seem to have been a potential source for all kinds of problems as the sets aged or were moved about, a set found in a local collector's collection played with no problem.

All indications are that either of the Buckwalters did not sell many of these sets. It seems unlikely this set's designs with its paradox of the ingenious and the impractical would have made it an unusually popular radio with the buying public. It's also unlikely the set's tricky

name and patent pending label would have deterred RCA from pursuing patent infringement suits and imposing sanctions against any dealer selling the sets. This may explain why no advertisements for these sets can be found in the newspapers of that time and the fact that all of Denver's Buckwalter sets seem to have been sold from Harry's home. All of these things seem to indicate that this set became a "vanity" set, a victim of a compromise between desires of its promoter and manufacturer, and not the trend setter that either of the Buckwalters would have hoped for. Although Harry is credited with being a Denver radio manufacturer until 1926, the Supertone model is the only Buckwalter radio known to be in the hands of a Colorado collector today.

In spite of the limited success of his radio manufacturing and sales efforts, Harry Buckwalter's reputation as a local radio expert remained untarnished. He was frequently called upon by the newspapers to explain the changes that Colorado's broadcasting stations had to undergo and the listeners had to endure. By the late 1920s, however, Harry Buckwalter's health had begun to fail, and in 1930 he died at the age of sixty-three. Although he was known and is remembered as one of Colorado's greatest photographers, few remember his contributions to Colorado radio history. While few, if any, Buckwalter Radio radios were probably actually manufactured in Colorado, the Supertone model did incorporate innovations expected from a mind like Harry Buckwalter's and bore the

prominent Coloradan's name and so deserves to be remembered with him in Colorado's radio history.

Sources:

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# Meet the Collector - Tom Pouliot -

by

Larry Weide, CRC Member

Tom Pouliot. Now here's a guy you can count on to bring something for show 'n tell that will always add a little zest to a CRC meeting. Are you like me in that you can't help but wonder what his collection must be like - all in one place? Well what the heck, I've got a camera and a notebook, so I thought I'd ask Tom if I could do a "Meet the Collector" Flash article on him. And, as they say, the rest is history.

So, your reporter arrived at the doorstep of Tom and Marti Pouliot's home which resides in a beautiful west Lakewood neighborhood. First impressions? It's definitely that Tom is

married to a great lady. How do I know this? Easy. Marti allows Tom to decorate their home with many pieces from his collection!

The first thing that catches your eye when you walk into the Pouliot living room is a fully restored American Bosch Model H, 1929. It's easy to see how Tom could cozy up to that radio with a good book (fig. 1). Now, I turned around and there's Tom's evil twin messaging the books, while Marti is massaging him, *and* a working Gilfilan Model GN2, 1925 with an Amplion speaker, at his side (fig. 2)

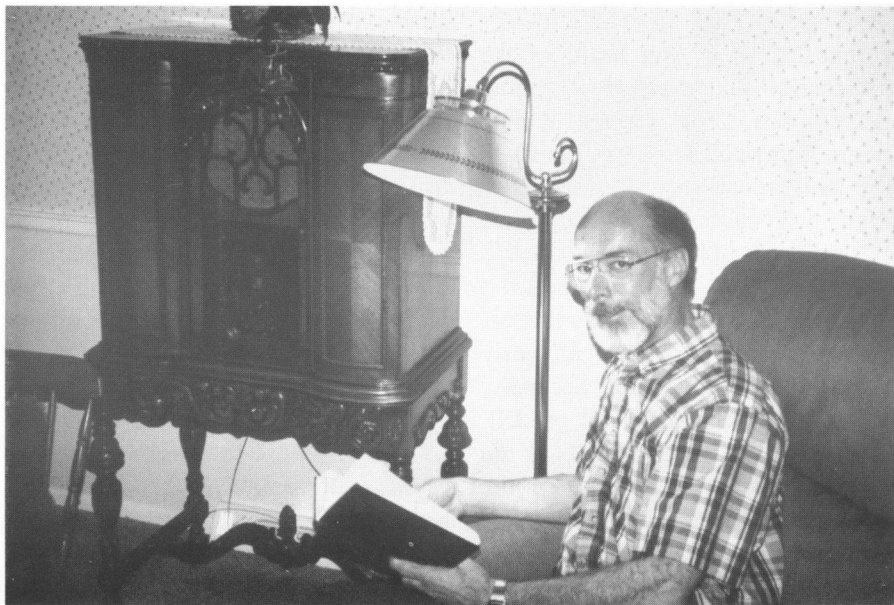


fig. 1



But, if you want to see what really turns on Tom's love of radio collecting, then we need to go downstairs to his display room where you'll find many examples of rare wireless and early radios.

Perhaps some of you heard of the recent Denver find of a 1919 Amrad Model SE1420. Sure enough, it now resides in Tom's collection (see cover).

So, look around (figs 3 - 5), and be rightfully jealous of all the fine pieces that Tom has collected over the years. However, before you use your own collections as kindling, be aware that his didn't come easy. First of all early wireless items are not cheap. Secondly, Tom, using his very high level of skill, has personally brought back many of these cabinets and chassises from the brink of the junk pile.

Well, what about this guy, that we all know as a premier collector and restorer

of early radio? Tom was born and raised in Livermore California - the home of the famous atomic accelerator lab. His dad, who is a mechanical engineer, got Tom's "electro-mechanical attention" early in life. Tom says that when he was five or six years old his dad was already teaching him about simple electrical hook-ups, and how the noise from a sparking buzzer could be transmitted to a radio. Boing! The hook was set. This was the start of an insatiable interest for the rest of his life.

At the age of seven he built his first radio, which was actually a one transistor circuit (how many of you old codgers remember the first commercially available transistor - the Raytheon CK722?). While in the 5th grade he saved every penny he could earn and bought a \$25 RME69 receiver from a ham that lived in his neighborhood. By the time he reached highschool he was

an active ham himself, working CW on 20 and 40 meters.

Tom then told me, like others of us who have a life long love of things electrical/mechanical, that he was blessed with friends with mutual interests and, most importantly, a mentor to guide and direct him. This mentor (again, like many of us) was his electronics shop teacher. The Livermore high school had an excellent program in electronics that Tom just "soaked up". Tom said that recently, after 31 years, he had a chance to visit this instructor and tell him how valuable and appreciated his tutelage had become.

Not surprising, the next place we find Tom is working for the Livermore Labs. After about eight years at the lab Tom met his life-long love to be Marti, they wedded and moved on to Colorado where he started doing medical equipment service. Soon after this he

and a partner opened up a machine shop, that he managed for ten years.

Tom says that one of the personal achievements of his life was to bicycle from Denver back to his parents home in California - a 17 day slog over mountains and plains!

Today Tom is in the computerized numerical control machining device service business (easy for you to say!). He enjoys life with his wife Marti, his daughter Amy, 21 and currently in Costa Rica learning college credit Spanish, and his daughter Julie, 15 and a high school student in Lakewood. Oh yes, and a gaggle of radios that you could die for.

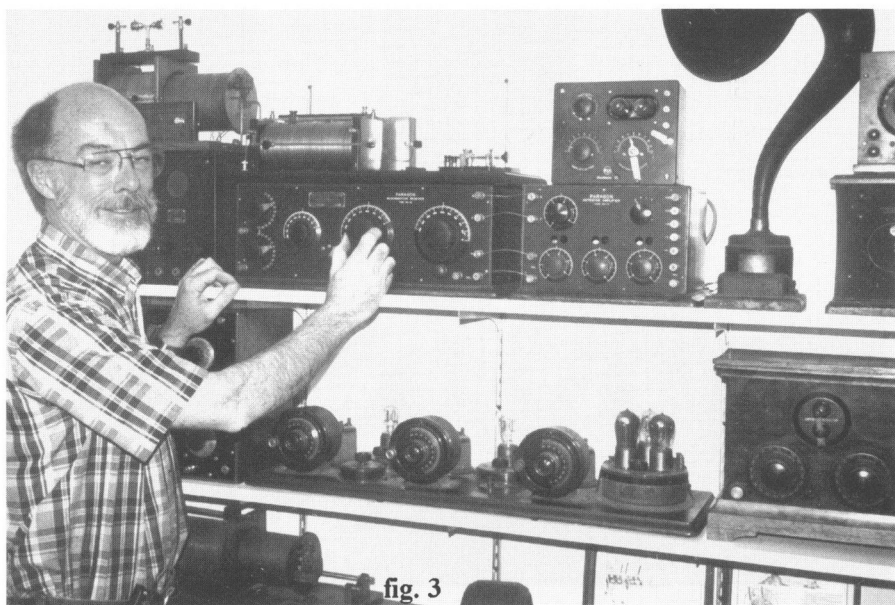




fig. 4

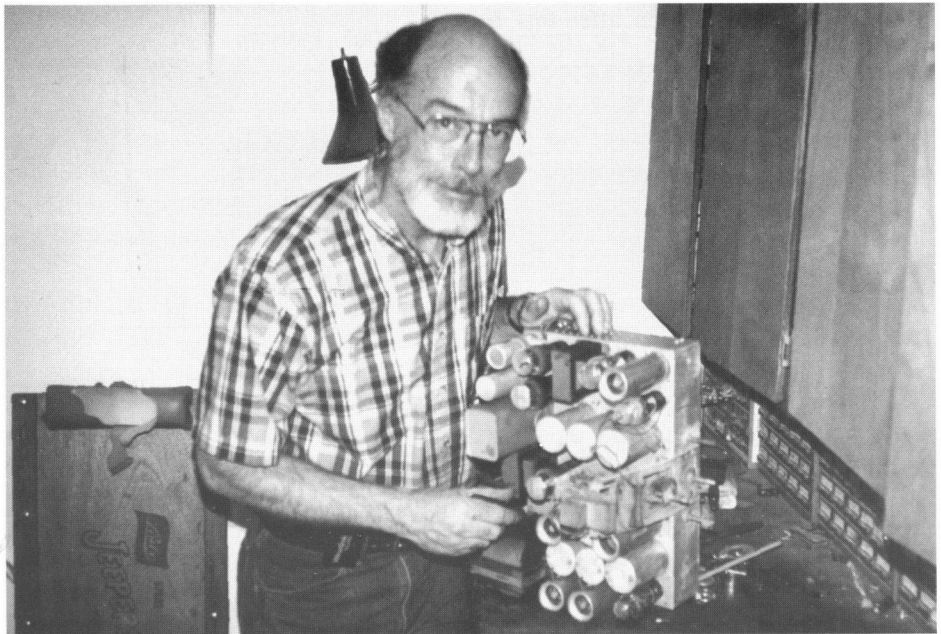


fig. 5





## Heard on the Net



Hi fellow collectors!

This month Dave Tripe, one of our members, has something interesting about the net to tell us. He writes;

*Recently I have been looking for Sony, Panasonic and Grundig high-end multi-band portable transistor radios. I have found a few of these radios for sale in the Antique Radio Classifieds. I could do things the easy way and telephone the sellers of these radios and have them send me photos of the radios so I could determine if I would be interested in buying any of them. However I recently bought a used computer at a bargain basement price and decided to surf the internet to see what kind of luck I might have in finding pictures of these radios on the net. The first thing I did was log on to Sony's web site and see if maybe they had an archive section that had pictures of their old or discontinued models. Well, no such luck, all I got were pics of the stuff they currently produce. I also ran into the same dead-end on Panasonic's and Grundig's web sites. The next thing I did was to browse the radio classifieds on the net to find pictures of the specific models I am looking for. However, all I have found are photos of models I am not seeking. Anyway, I still have a lot of browsing to do as there are many, many links I have yet to discover.*

*If and when I find the pictures of the radios I am seeking, I will be a happy radio collecting camper.*

*To be continued..... CRC member David Tripe*

*P.S. Here are the model numbers of radios I am searching for, Sony CRF-320, Sony CRF-5100 earth orbiter, Panasonic RF-2800, Panasonic RF-4900, Panasonic RF-1700, Panasonic RF-2200, and last but not least, Grundig Satellite 6001.*

# "The Open Trunk" Classified Advertisements

Classified ads are free to members. Call, see, mail or e-mail your ad to **Larry Weide**, CRC publisher (see IFC).

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WANTED: Radione German radios Model R-2 1939 portable, Model R-3 1942 Mil. portable. **John Miner**, (303)831-5252 - daytime

-----  
WANTED: Cabinet for an Atwater Kent Model 36. **Doug McDowell**, (303)794-9047  
dmedmail@concentric.net

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FOR SALE: Reproduction Philco Cathedral cabinet parts. Front panels, rear arches, bottom mouldings. Grandfather clock finials, colonial clock top trim and finials. Reproduction 90 cabinets. Other needs such as other style mouldings from you sample. Inquire. **Dick Oliver**, Antique Radio Svc., 28604 Schalm Dr., Elkhart IN 46517. (219)522-4516

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WANTED: • The female power (battery) plug for a Kemper portable K-52. Similar to octal except has 7 pins and two round locating pins (edge and center).

• Knobs for a Crosley 601 bandbox. **Mark McKeown**, (303) 278-3908  
mmckeown@tde.com

-----  
WANTED: RCA Radiola horn speaker magnet coil. Do you have a speaker beyond reasonable repair or a junk assembly? **Larry Weide**, 5270 E. Nassau Cir, Englewood, CO 80110

(303)758-8382, lweide@ibm.net

-----  
FOR SALE: • Zenith 9S365,  
• Zenith 9S367, • Philco-70,  
• Crosley "Bullseye" with fins.  
**Bill Hinkely** (303)730-8539

-----  
WANTED: • Stewart-Warner model R-123 chassis, used in receiver models 1231 to 1239 (see Riders volume 6 page 6-2 for picture of chassis). • Chassis for AK 217, and Majestic 371.

FOR SALE: Tektronix scope probes. **Jerry Tynan**, (303)642-0553  
jtynan@worlnet.att.net

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FOR SALE: • Copper Rod, save \$\$\$\$\$\$, serveral diameters available to make your own soldering iron tips (or I can for you). • Radio repair and restoration service. **David Boyle**,

1058 Colt Cir., Castle Rock, CO  
80104  
(303)681-3258

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WANTED: RCA Model 301 "Duo"  
(1933) or 301 "Duo" (1934) table  
radio with record player. **Tom  
Kelley**, 971-1/2 Pleasant St.,  
Boulder, CO 80302 (303)444-1837

---

FOR SALE: TRS 80 Model 3  
vintage computer!

WANTED: • Chassis for Sparton  
Model 931. • Information about any  
radios manufactured in Colorado.  
A&M, Madison/Moore, Buckwalter.  
etc.

**Wayne Gilbert** (303)465-0883

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WANTED: • Dial drive assembly for  
a Philco 42-327, or a junker with dial  
plate, support, dial pointer and  
sheaves intact. • Case and knobs for  
a Zenith 6D311 Bakelite set. • The  
articulated detector arm for a Flivver  
crystal set. **Fred Sodamann**  
2603 N. Greenwood, Pueblo 81003  
(719)543-6654, fritz@market1.com

---

FOR SALE: • Victor console, 1927.  
• GE Tombstone Model A63, 1935.  
• Majestic Tombstone, 1935.  
• Zenith 5G01, 1950. • Emerson  
Model 529, portable record recorder,  
1950 Two tone arms and mike -  
NITB.  
• Precision Tuber Testor Model  
10-54. • 2 spools of jumper leads, 2  
spools of 40's hookup wire.

**Clyde Bengel**, 10057 S. Falcon  
Creek Dr., Littleton CO 80126,  
(303)683-0624

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FOR SALE: **Juke Boxes !**

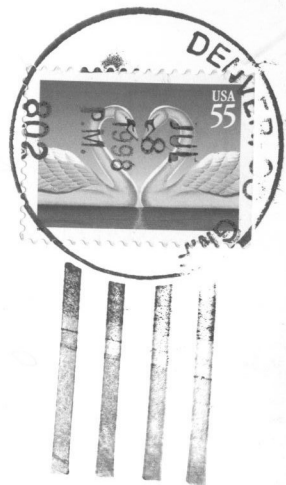
• Rockola 441 "Deluxe" \$300.

• Wurlitzer "Cabaret" \$300.

Dave Wanner, 3230 W. Grand Ave.,  
Englewood, CO 80110  
(303)797-7563

*Colorado Radio Collectors  
Antique Radio Club*  
5270 E. Nassau Cir.  
Englewood CO 80110

FIRST CLASS



**\*\* CRC Picnic - July 26th \*\***  
**(see page 12 for details)**

**Mark your calendars!**  
**The CRC July meeting is on Sunday, the 12th at 1:00pm**  
**VectraBank building, Federal and Arkansas**