

## Snip... Snip

By Wayne Gilbert CRC Member

Snip...Snip. This repair is nearly finished, thinks Bob Fields, and he's ready for his day to end. Just stretch the insulation on these two wires a bit, and then position them so as to look connected, put the chassis back into the case, and this radio will be finished. Another government-mandated, short wave-band-disable job completed, except for the paperwork.

As he scribbles a note inside the chassis that the short wave band has been

disabled per orders from the government,

he muses about why the government thought old Fritz Nauman would use any information he heard on his radio to aid

he was actually disabling a portion of this perfectly good radio. He had been told by his boss to do it, but how had his boss been



Below are aliens in Los Angeles, turning in radios and cameras in response to Govt. order. Servicemen may help by removing shortwave. See Service Section.

This photo was copied from Radio Retailing January 1942, p. 19. It purportedly shows some citizens of Los Angeles lined up to have their shortwave bands disabled, although only 2-3 seem to have their radio with them.

made aware of the new rule? Bob had heard that U. S. Attorney General Francis Biddle had issued a circular letter in December, just after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, but then there were also rumors that it was only authorized by a presidential proclamation<sup>1</sup>, or maybe even just an FCC order<sup>2</sup>. And then there was also a rumor

that no official edict had even been issued! With all of this confusion it was no wonder that some repair shops were just ignoring the requirement all together.

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Hitler. Fritz was a northwest Missouri farmer, not a spy or some secret agent. Sure, he was a naturalized American, but he was as American in his ways as any other member of the local German community, some of whose ancestors had been farmers here for the last several generations.

Bob continued to muse over his work, wondering now just how it came to be that

<sup>1</sup> This rumor was supported by an entry in Section 21 of Title 50 of U S code

<sup>2</sup> This rumor was supported by FCC Order 101, June 19, 1942

# COLORADO RADIO COLLECTORS ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB

Founded October 1988  
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## Message from the President

### HAPPY NEW YEAR FELLOW RADIO COLLECTORS

Reflecting back on the last two years I extend my sincere "thanks" to **Tom Kelly** for "hanging-in-there" and being our President.

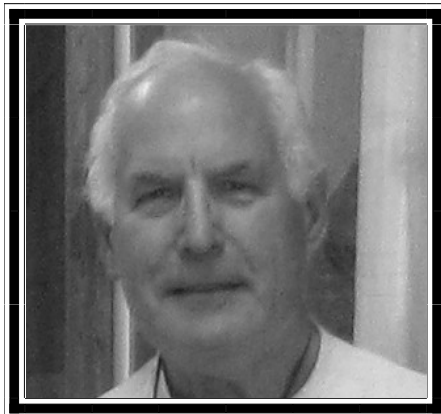
Under his leadership our club met our traditional goals and also conducted some fantastically successful events and activities.

Historically, I have been the club's President for the years of 1997, 2006, and 2007. I don't mind filling the vacancy again...new blood, so to speak, could have brought new ideas, a fresh perspective, and new style to the continuing success of our club...and given anyone of you a chance to do what I consider a privilege!

I appreciate my friend, fellow BBQ cook and fellow club member **Bill Busch** for volunteering to fill the VP vacancy, thanks, Bill.

The vitality of any club can be somewhat measured by the involvement of it's individual

members. So I ask each one of you to contribute what you feel you are able to...don't be a recluse or think no one would be interested. I know we all have radio interests and skills to share...become engaged in so many ways. The *Colorado Radio Collectors* Club needs your participation! Our members



always enjoy "Show & Tell" radios or related items, or being part of a Special Topic" presentation such as the **Crystal Sets** topic at our November meeting. Our **FLASH** always needs articles and our events always require many volunteers. Think about helping **your club** out. It's a feel good thing!...for all of us.

Our "Special Topic" for the January meeting will be **Radios of Historical Interest**. Please join in. As we plan for the March show think about your ideas for the "**featured category**" or radio brand...or what your thoughts are to continue to improve or enhance the show experience for us and the public.

Stay Tuned, *David Boyle*

## CRC CONTACTS

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## Upcoming Events

2/14—Valentines Day  
3/11—March CRC Meeting  
3/25—CRC Show

## Meeting Locations (Unless noted otherwise)

Littleton	Castle Rock
January	March
May	July
September	November

## CRC MEETINGS

Meetings are held on the 2nd Sunday of every other month starting in January (except May is 3rd Sunday) at 1:00 pm. The meetings consist of business, "show & tell", raffles, auctions, swap meets, technical discussions and other subjects of interest

## CRC MEMBERSHIP

Annual membership in the CRC runs from July to June. Dues entitle members to attend meetings, "The Flash!" our newsletter, discount book prices, participation in our spring show and Fall auction. Current annual dues are \$12. New memberships will be prorated to the following June.

(Continued from page 1)

Ignoring the requirement to disable the short wave bands also had its controversies. Whose radios were to be disabled? Bob was told it was to be done to radios belonging to all enemy aliens, but then who *was* an enemy alien and how did one go about recognizing one? Presumably, these would be an Italian, a Japanese, or a German, but was it all Japs, Germans and/or Italians, or just those not citizens, and how was he to determine that?

One of Bob's high school classmates was an example of a typical German-American resident living in this area, he was born in the U.S. but his parents were born in Germany. As Bob understood it from Fritz Jr, his father was a naturalized citizen, but his mother wasn't a citizen yet. Did that mean Bob was required to disable Fritz Jr's

mother's radio, but Fritz Jr and his father could still listen to short wave broadcasts on their family radio, even in the same house? It just didn't make good sense!

Part of the problem was that, in its zeal to show it was protecting America from foreign enemies, Roosevelt's government had issued a number of proclamations, restrictions, and guidelines, so many in fact that the US Printing Office was overwhelmed with work. In fact, several magazines and newspapers were publishing semi-official versions of these documents to act as uni-

form guidelines until the official versions could be printed and distributed.

Another source of confusion was the payment for this work. It was said that repair shops should charge \$1 to \$2.00 per disabling, which could be a nice profit for the shop owner who paid his repair staff, on the average, about 60 cents per hour. Since there were no official guidelines detailing how the radios were to have their short wave band disabled, the technique used varied from shop to shop, and even from technician to technician. Some, like Bob, simply snipped the wires to the short wave oscillator, then disguised the work by stretching and rejoining the clipped wire's insulation over the cut. This was quick and effective and could be repaired easily enough when the war was over or the edict rescinded.



Informal notes were often put inside of the radio cabinet to assist anyone who would later want to restore the shortwave band. This one courtesy of Thomas V. Lee, was found in a Silvertone 4319 Console.

Others, however, took the time to remove wafers from the band switch, or even disabled the band switch permanently by soldering its connectors shut. According to Bob's understanding, repairmen were required to preserve any parts removed and turn them and one copy of the work-performance receipt to the police. Presumably these parts would be warehoused until the order was given to restore these

radios to their original condition.

Even filling out the form caused Bob some headaches. It was required to enter the owner's name and address, the date and kind of alterations made, the number of people in the owner's family and, finally, did Bob suspect any other radios were being hidden or used by the owner. This really made Bob's head swim! How could he possibly know these things, and what were the consequences to him and the owner if he answered 'yes' to some of these questions?

Finally, Bob had the radio ready, including the dreaded paperwork. On a whim he had written, "Disabled short wave band, March 14, 1942", on a small piece of note paper, rolled it up and stuck it between the chassis and cabinet, leaving a trail for himself or any other future repair man, should

the official document get lost or misplaced.

The official authorization to stop disabling short wave

bands of enemy aliens was issued in 1945, and Bob was again at work, this time restoring radios to their original condition. He noticed as he worked that the jobs requesting short-wave-band restoration weren't as plentiful as expected. He thought this was partly because his wages were up by about a dollar an hour, and since restoring

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some of these radios could require several hours, the restoration cost was often just too much. Besides, most owners of disabled radios were no longer as interested in listening to news on the short wave bands, and those who were had found better radios available, at a reasonable price.

Bob also noticed that most of the radios being restored were consoles. He guessed that was because they had been harder to hide during the war, as well as being a more valuable radio. Bob smiled to himself as he worked because he and others knew that most of these 1930s console radios had not been designed for serious short wave listening, even when new.

Bob had kept his job all through the war, both because he had gotten a medical deferment, and because the government had recognized the need to keep the American public informed with the official version of the war news, and encouraged everyone to have a working broadcast radio. It had been a challenge, making repairs to some of these older radios when tubes and other components were in short supply. Often Bob had had to modify a radio to use those tubes and components he had available. Others like Fritz Jr, and the young Nisei living down the street, had gone to fight. Their status as enemies had fluctuated throughout the war, but most were eventually recognized as being as patriotic Americans as Bob or his boss. Even the definition as to who was to have his radio disabled had finally been more or less standardized as to include those Italian, Japanese, and Germans living in the US, but who were not born in the US nor were

naturalized citizens.

Although Bob's shop had continued to disable radios until officially informed to stop, many shops had never purposely disabled any customer's radio. Whether a shop ignored the official government edicts seemed to depend on where they were located. Shops in small towns, where everyone knew each other, tended to not 'see' many enemy aliens among its customers, and even cities located in the heartland of the country generally did not enforce the regulation vigorously.

There were however, stories told that residents of Detroit, Los Angeles, and other coastal or border cities having their radios temporarily confiscated by the local fire department, and even occasionally by officials who identified themselves as from the police department or the FBI.

Bob had read that the government had estimated that there were more than a million people identified as enemy aliens during the war, but like most people, he believed that any true enemy agent would not be relying on his family's broadcast radio for instruction from Hitler or his like.

It is rare for a collector to find a purposely-disabled radio today, partly because it's hard to identify a purposeful disabling from an incompetent repair job, and partly because most of the disabled radios were simply discarded in favor of a better radio, (or even a television set) when they failed. Although some radios containing a repairman's note, describing his work, have been found, this author has not found anyone who has located an original work order or repair shop job book describing a purpose-

ful disabling of an enemy alien's radio.

Colorado history buffs know that Governor Carr was one of the few governors who allowed the displaced Japanese to settle in his state, even when emotions against the Japanese were at its peak. He also seems to have taken the official position that identifying enemy agents was not the purview of a radio repairman, and while some cities, like Greeley, enforced the regulations, they were not enforced with rigor throughout most of the state.

## Sources:

Busetti, Dan. Telephone conversations Oct 2011.

Brett, Charlie. Telephone conversations Oct 2011.

Cadwell, O. H., Author. Radio Retailing Today.

Greeley Tribune. Colorado's Enemy Aliens.

New York Times, p 4. Short-wave Sets of Aliens Curbed. Dec 28, 1941

New York Times, p 7. Alien Camera Ban Widened. Jan 1, 1942

Popular Communications. Urban Leg-ends—Fiction into Fact. Jan 2003, pg 22.

Radio Retailing. Alter Shortwave Sets for Aliens. January 1942, pg 68.

Radio Retailing. Penn Servicemen Tackle War Jobs. January 1942, pg 69.

Sylvania News, New Opportunity for Service Jobs. Jan-Feb 1942.

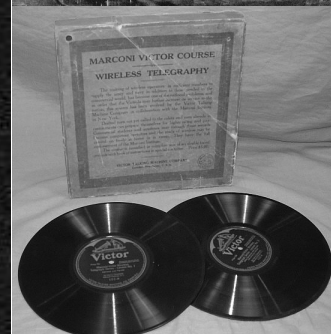
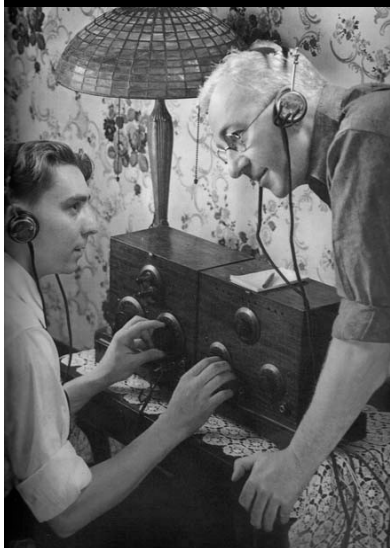
Syracuse-Herald Journal. Enemy Alien Radio Ruling is Moderated. Jan 6.1942

Sutcliffe, Neil. Salary Range. Email correspondence Sept-Oct 2011

# Special Topic for January's meeting

## Radios of Historical Interest

If you have one, bring it and tell us about it!



UTAH RADIO PRODUCTS COMPANY  
CHICAGO, ILL.



Yes Sweetheart, I mean  
**YOU!!!**



# New/Old Club Officers

By Rich Kuberski CRC Member

Our current club President, **Tom Kelley**, announced today that he will be unable to continue in his position after the current meeting. **Marty Phillips**, the current VP has also noted that he will not be able to continue in his position.

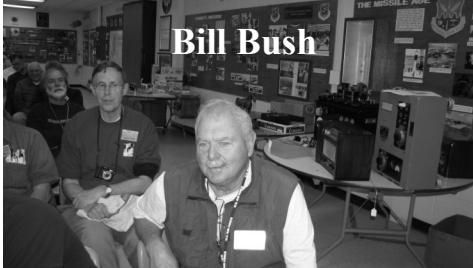
This was leaving the club without leadership. As such, a call was made for someone to assume the position of President and Vice President. At first, NO ONE stepped forward. A very disappointing situation.



After our break, the discussion was again reopened and still no takers. Finally, **Dave Boyle**, a person that has assumed this position several times in the past, agreed to once again take on the duties. **Bill Bush** has agreed to fill the position of Vice

President, thus averting a collapse of the club. **Mike Cook**, club Treasurer also requested that there be someone to take over his duties. He has been treasurer for three years. Once again, there were no takers, but Mike graciously agreed to continue for another year.

Needless to say, without a few people willing to take a position of leadership in the club, there can be no club. A show of hands at the meeting revealed that the ma-



jority of club members have never taken any official position in the club. This is a situation that must change. You see the same few people doing all the work. It's past time for the non participating members to assume some of the duties. As our outgoing president Tom Kelley said "It's not that hard of a job, If I can do it, anyone

can." So, what are you waiting for?

At the next meeting, there will be a call for a Show Coordinator for the March CRC Show. Robert Baumann has done this for the past several years and I am pretty sure that he would appreciate it if someone else would step forward.

As someone that's generally been willing to assist, I've never understood why it is so difficult to recruit people to do the few



jobs required to keep the club operating smoothly. A club by its very nature is nothing but a bunch of like minded people gathering to enjoy something. So, consider that this commentary is directed at **YOU** and think about what **YOU** can do to keep the **CRC** a viable organization.

## Club approves donation to Libraries where we have been meeting

By Rich Kuberski CRC Member

For several years, the CRC has been meeting at either the Miller Library in Castle Rock or the Bemis Library in Littleton. These facilities have been very gracious in providing this meeting space to us at no cost.

In recognition of this, it was proposed that we make a

donation to each of these libraries. It was proposed to donate \$300 to the Miller Library and \$200 to the Bemis Library. This was voted on and approved by the members in attendance. Mike Cook wrote the checks and Dave Boyle will have them delivered.

A while back, I had asked to have members send me pictures of their work area's so I could use these pictures as fillers. So far, I've had ZERO response. So, you get to see mine. This is a wide angle shot done by stitching 5 images together. Rich Kuberski



# Wings over the Rockies Air & Space Museum

By Rich Kuberski CRC Member

Our host for the last meeting, Mr. Bart Whitehouse, was unable to be here because of a recent slip on the ice. He broke his ankle and no matter how much he wanted to attend, he just could not make it.

We all certainly appreciate his efforts on our behalf. He made the arrangements for the club to meet at the Museum and saw to it that we all got in for free. That alone was almost worth a years membership dues.

As I write this, Bart is doing much better. His ankle is healing and he is getting around better. I don't know if he will be at the January meeting, but we certainly hope so.

I am certainly not an authority on the museum, but I did want to put in a plug for someone that works there in the library. Ms. Marilyn Chang is the mu-



seum's librarian. Her domain contains an amazing stash of cool stuff. I've had the opportunity to see a few of the nuggets that they have and it would make your eyes pop.

Here is just one of the items that I've seen, the *Apollo 11 Flight Plan*. This is original material. If there is anything flight or space related that you have an interest in, Marilyn can assist you in finding it. Give it a try she would be glad to assist you

She is also soliciting donations for special materials. You can contact her directly to see if you might have something that they could use..

Visit their website at:

[www.wingsmuseum.org](http://www.wingsmuseum.org)



## CRC Show & Vintage Voltage

By Rich Kuberski CRC Member

Okay folks, it's getting to be that time of the year again. The fabulous **CRC Show** held in conjunction with **Vintage Voltage** will be at the **Ramada Inn** at 120th & I-25 on **March 25th**. This is one the top two events sponsored by the club.

Bring out all of your fine radios and put them out for viewing and judging. I know that not everyone has been to one of these shows and even though there have been videos showing what is on display, there is nothing like being there in person. You will have a chance to visit with the people that have taken the trouble to bring out their fine radios and a chance to see first hand one of the best displays of vintage radios available in the entire Western United States!



You can bet that I will be there. I have a few consoles that none of you have seen yet. I went through a blizzard of restoration a couple months ago and completed work on 5 consoles in 10 days. But don't worry, I won't bring them all.

Here are before and after pictures of a General Electric 10K.

We also need to select a **featured category** for the show and we need someone to be the **Show Coordinator**. So, put on your thinking cap and while you are at it, **consider volunteering.**

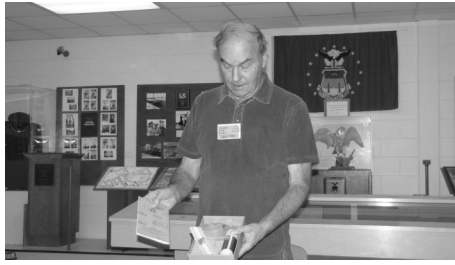
As many of you know Larry Weide and I have produced a video of the past three shows. Our sales were quite limited last year and we are considering not doing it for 2012 unless we can get a reasonable number of orders for the DVD's.

It's been a lot of fun to make the videos, but it's also a lot of work, so, let us know if you want one or more.

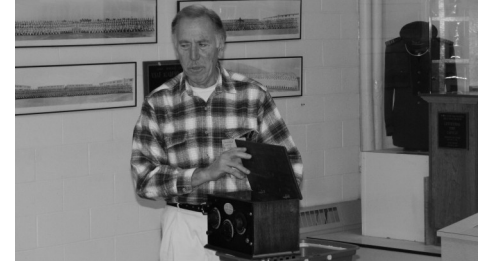
## Photos from September 11th Meeting at the Philip Miller Library in Castle Rock



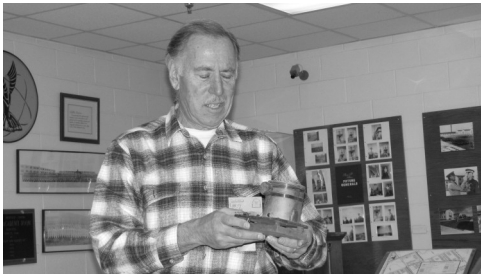
A great turnout for our meeting at the Wings over the Rockies Museum



Tom Kelley kicks off the meeting showing his Restoration Hardware crystal radio



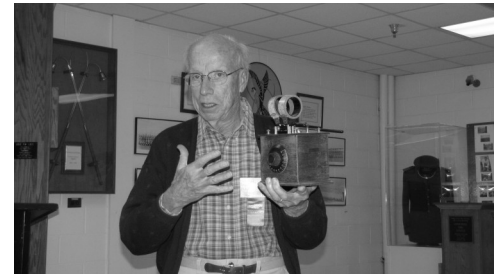
Larry Weide shows his rebuilt early 1920's crystal radio—The “Weidephone”



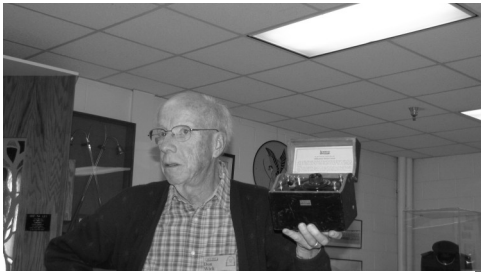
Larry also shows off a homebuilt crystal radio found at a yard sale near his home



Bill Dial with his beautifully restored Areola Jr. from 1921



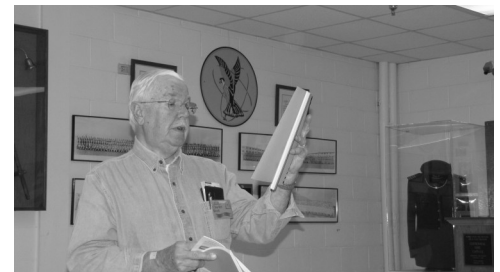
Don Wick with his French crystal radio.



Don with Leaco Radio



Don with Spencer radio from 1929



Charlie Brett talks about the Crystal Radio Club that he is a member of.



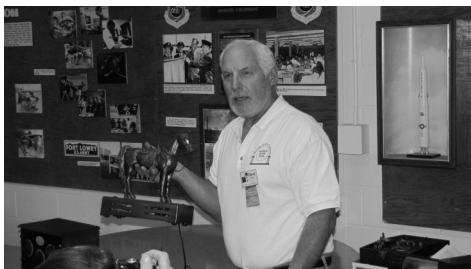
Tom Zacek shows Firestone Air Chief 7405 radio that he restored



Tom also showed off a GE X153 that he restored.



Mark Dittmar explains Radiomarine Corp. of America shipboard Transmitter



Dave Boyle with his restored Abbotware “Horse” radio.



Tom Pouliot shows off the Gavel that Yuriy Yedidovich made for him



Tom describes his homemade LF receiver made from early 1920's parts





# ***The Open Trunk***

Member submitted advertisements



**WANTED:** Buy/Sell/Trade: "Heavy Metal" communications gear, telegraph related items, vintage calculators & micro-phones.

**Robert Baumann, 303-988-2089**  
**HQ180A@aol.com. (07/09)**

## **REPAIR SERVICE:**

Radio repairs for club members. Reasonable rates. Good references.

**Call David Boyle**  
**303-681-3258**

11/09

## **For Sale: by Dave Boyle**

All of the following older but "classic" radio and TV repair instruments have been expertly refurbished, repaired, and calibrated as appropriate.

All Instruments come with test leads, as required and most have manuals. Prices might be negotiable.

- 1) Heathkit TV Alignment Generator; IG-52. \$65.00
- 2) Heathkit's best "Laboratory" Signal Generator, IG-42 ( I use one myself ). \$105.00
- 3) Heathkit Capacitor Tester, C-3. Also checks leakage, power factor, and resistance. \$65.00
- 4) Heathkit Tube Tester, IT-21. Tests older types too! \$50.00
- 5) Eico Model 324 Signal Generator. \$60.00
- 6) Precision Apparatus Company ( PACO ) Model E-400 Sweep Signal Generator. \$55.00
- 7) Eico Model 425: 5" oscilloscope. Two to choose from, both rebuilt, one with new CRT. Perfect for old radio and audio repair work. \$45 and \$65 respectively. With manual.

**Call**  
**David Boyle, 303-681-3258** 5/11

## **Wanted**

Knight KG-2000 Manual (copy okay)  
**Robert Schineller 303-682-1949**  
**Schineller@comcast.net**

## **Many old Tubes for Sale**

Try me before you order over the internet and save shipping.

01A, 24A, 27, 35/5, 47, 71A, 80 and many others. All tested on my Hickok TV-7/DU tester.

**Mike Cook 303-471-9596**

## **Custom Embroidered CRC LOGO on Shirts and Hats**

**Only \$5.00 + Tax per Garment**

- Choose the LOGO size - up to 3" high
- Choose the colors, up to four
- Include your name under the LOGO - a \$1 option
- Provide your own garment, or...
- Choose from a wide selection in a catalog: [www.imprintswholesale.com](http://www.imprintswholesale.com)

For orders, catalog prices and further info contact the seamstress directly.

**Judy Houser**  
**(303) 771-3577**  
**Highlands Ranch, Colorado**

A few pictures from my WWII Collection—Rich Kuberski



**Dawn Landing 1944**



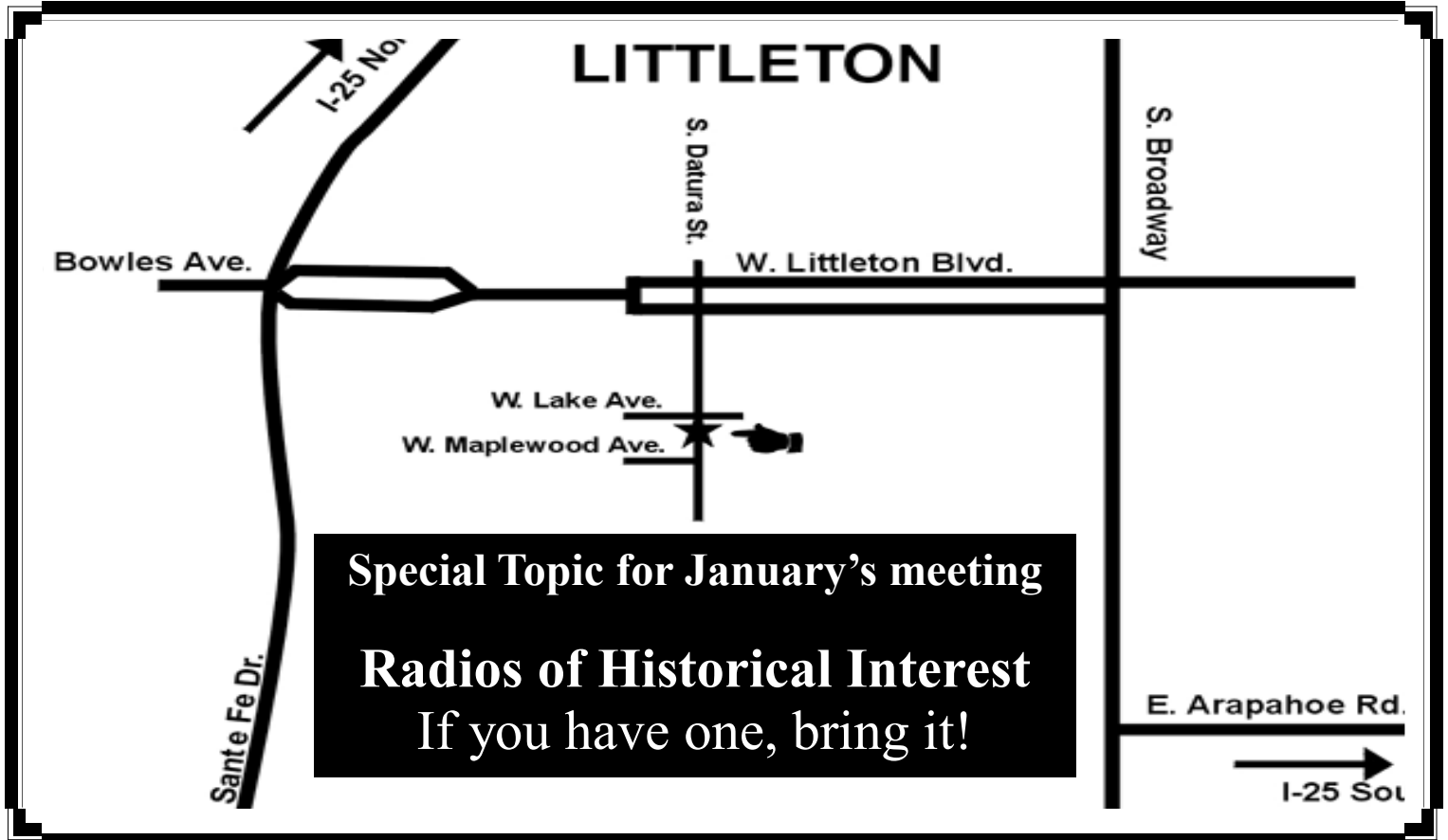
**B-17's over Europe**

## **SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES AND ADVERTISEMENTS**

Classified Ads for The Open Trunk and articles of any radio/electronic or historical related subject to be published in the Flash are encouraged and welcomed. The article(s) should be submitted in Microsoft Word, RTF, or as text cut/paste into your email to Steve Touzalin, either by email at [stevetou@comcast.net](mailto:stevetou@comcast.net) , or by postal mail to 417 So. Queen Circle, Lakewood CO 80226 .

Formatting isn't necessary, but if you do, set the font to Times New Roman, size 10, left justified. If you have graphics (.jpg files) to be inserted, please name them and be specific about how you would like them placed. We will do our best based on space limitations.

The January 8th, 1:00 meeting will be at the Bemis Library in Littleton



Colorado Radio Collectors  
Antique Radio Club  
417 S. Queen Cir.  
Lakewood CO 80226

FIRST CLASS MAIL