



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

Volume 25, Issue 1

The January 12th meeting is at the Bemis Library in Littleton

January/Feb. 2014

## Mr. L. S. Roth's Production Sample Pilot Radio

By Yuriy Yedidovich—CRC Member

At the end of June 2013 I received an email that started like this.

*Dear Sir We recently moved and we have this 1938 Pilot radio that my father built when he was head of manufacturing at Pilot. It is the first production unit of this model and is so marked...*

The email was very intriguing to me. The attached pictures were not the best quality. A web search at the beginning didn't return much information and the radio's condition was uncertain. An additional search gave me a clue about the model, but I wasn't sure if it was a correct guess or not. It looks like the nine tube radio model H594 was built in 1937-1938. It is very nice radio, but I was more interested in the personal story attached with this radio. The radio belonged to a head of manufacturing, plus this is a first production unit. Cool, isn't it? It's not just a radio; it's a part of history.

Two weeks later I brought this radio home. I met a very nice couple who gave me the opportunity to own this piece of history. I was right that this is a model H594.

The original owner was the head of manufacturing Pilot, brilliant engineer at Pilot Leonard Sidney Roth. 1915 – 1981.

### Production Sample

I was pointed to the sign when I first saw the radio. This was incredible, but when I came back home, with the radio, I realized that someone had put the sign on much later than when the radio was manufactured so that it could be displayed as a production sample. If you look closely at the sign you can see that someone has scratched dirt on the back of the chassis. This means that the dirt had come before the sign. I don't know who made this sign. It could have even been Mr. Leonard Roth, the original Pilot owner. Though what I can be sure of is that this radio has always been a part of Mr. Roth's family.



Pilot Model H594

Today, three weeks after I brought this radio home, I looked closely at the Production Sample sign and realized that I was wrong. Originally this sign was made with red paint. After all these years the paint fell off, and that is why the sign is much brighter than the dirty chassis. You can see the red paint if you really look closely at the sign. This is good proof that this sign was made back to 1938 (before the dirt accumulated during the years) and this particular radio is, in fact, a Production Sample.

### The Cabinet

The cabinet may be not as pretty as some of the more beautiful examples from The Golden Age Era, but is very unusual and huge. I have collected old radios for many years and have seen many large radios but none like this. I am sure this is one of the largest tabletop cabinet built before 1939. The size is 25.5" x 15.75" x 12.25" (4919.9 cubic inches)

### The Barrel Dial



# COLORADO RADIO COLLECTORS ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB

Founded October 1988

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## Message from the President

Happy New Year to all of you. I hope to see most of you at our January meeting which will be at the Littleton Bemis Library.

I would like to regress for a moment and let some of

you know that it is a disappointment that no one stepped forward to fill out the three open positions...that of Treasurer, V.P., and President. We still need "backups" in training for Flash editor, publisher and our auction resident computer specialist/administrator. Come on guys...it's your club too!

OK, that said; The January meeting *special topic* will be ...bring your favorite...or worst "basket case" radio project. That

can be a project-in-work or the finished/restored radio. Working...or not! Be prepared to tell us all about it. And as a reminder our annual show will be at the usual



venue; the Ramada Inn North on Sunday, March, 30th. The *special category* will be tube type "novelty" style radios. We can discuss examples at the meeting.

I'm short winded today...aren't you lucky. I'll make up for it in January!

Stay Tuned,

**David Boyle**

### CRC CONTACTS

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NOTE: at = @ in email addresses

### Upcoming Events

2/14	Valentines Day
3/9	Daylight Savings begins
3/30	CRC Show/Vintage Voltage

### 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 \$20. New memberships will be prorated to the following June.



(Continued from page 1)

A few companies have designed and sold radio with a roll dial in 1937-38, such as GE, Sears (Silver-tone), Stewart Warner, and Montgomery Ward (Airline), but none as huge as on this model. The pilot barrel dial is 3" in diameter. For comparison, the Sears Silver-tone radios' roll dial is 2.25" in diameter.

### The Bezel

The bezel is made from plastic. This is a relatively expensive process and it's expensive to make a unique mold if you do not intend to produce a huge number of bezels. Only large companies can afford to make an investment like this.

### The Motor Tuning

This isn't rare, but also isn't a common feature either. Usually a manufacturer would add this feature to a high-end model. This radio has twelve preset station buttons. This is greater number of preset buttons compared to other models produced in 1937-38 by different companies.

### Knobs / Controls (from left to right)



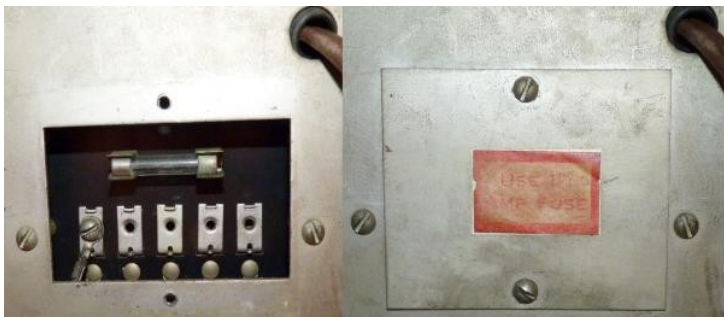
One thing that makes this radio extraordinary are the knobs. The knobs are a unique design and make this radio more attractive.

1. On-Off/Tone control
2. Volume
3. Central back knob. The motor turns the dial barrel up if the knob is turned left. The motor turns the dial barrel down if the knob is turned right
4. Central front knob. Manual tuning
5. Sensitivity
6. Band switch
7. 12 preset push-buttons

### The Pilot Lamps

When I removed the chassis, another surprise hit me. This model uses eight pilot lamps. Three lights light up each band individually, three lamps are behind the barrel dial, and two lamps are behind the tone and sensitivity windows.

### The Fuse



This is the first time I've seen a manufacturer install the fuse in the radio in a radio made prior 1939. This was nice surprise.

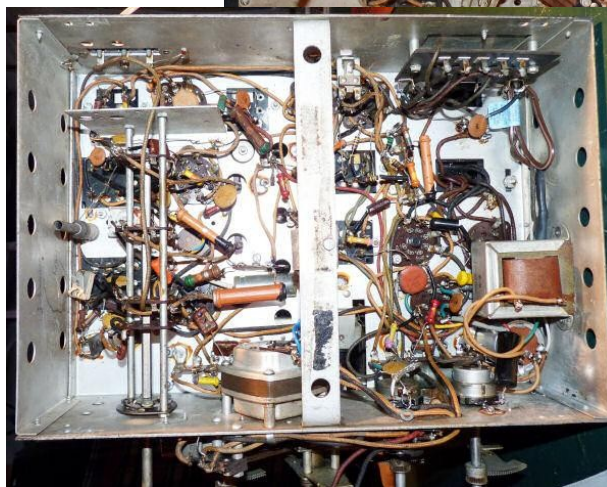
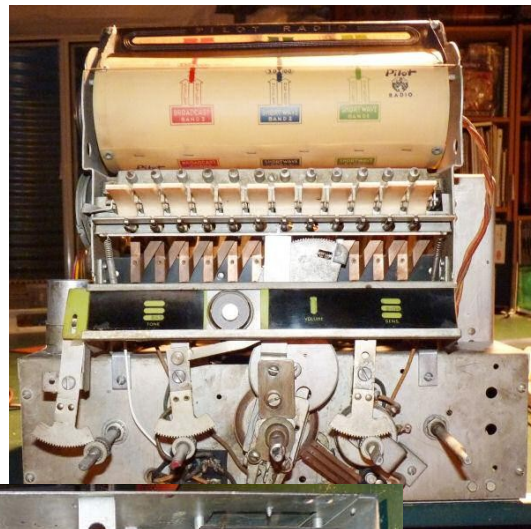
### The Rareness

I am not expert in Pilot radios, but my collector experience and simple observations tell me that overall Pilot radios are pretty rare, especially outside of the NY area.

In general, is usually a correlation between the amount of sold radios and radios that have survived. If it is hard to find a Pilot radio today, this means that the Pilot company had a problem selling them then in America. Maybe the general public didn't like the style and look of Pilot radios, maybe the price was higher than price other brands for a similar radio, maybe there was a management problem, or maybe something else.

I can't tell you about the production of all Pilot radios, but this particular model is an extremely nice example of engineering, production quality, and art deco giant-mania style.

### The Chassis



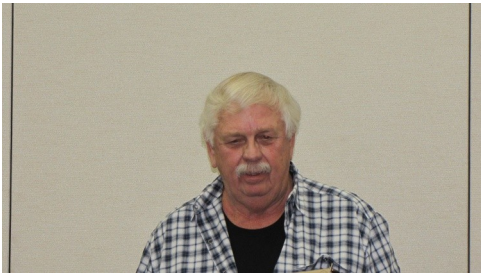


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Jones	Roger	Peggy	6050 Lewis Street	Avada	CO	80004	303-422-7020	cbeer01@comcast.net
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McCutcheon	Mike	P.O. Box 472	Aurora	CO	80040	303-343-2956	ugea07@denvercommons.net
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Reinhard	Dewey	4408 Greenstone Circle	Colorado Springs	CO	80915	719-596-5516	deweyfly@aol.com
Russert	Wayne	6221 Lake Gulch Rd.	Castle Rock	CO	80104	303-660-3799	deartrail@wans.net
Schafer	Douglas	2031 Andrea Pl.	Parker	CO	80138	303-840-2889	doschaf@msn.com
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Stone	Gary	13973 Pinehurst Cir	Broomfield	CO	80023	720-771-2080	resdson68@hotmail.com
Stroh	Tom	9764 West Elmhurst Place	Littleton	CO	80128	303-979-6135	
Stutzman	Bob	6976 S. Olive Way	Centennial	CO	80112	303-770-3406	stutzman.barbara@gmail.com
Thomas	Scott	1035 Craggin Road	Colorado Springs	CO	80920	719-640-3616	tommy.scott8820@yahoo.com
Touzalin	Steve	417 S. Queen Cir.	Lakewood	CO	80226	303-988-5394	stevetou@comcast.net
Tynan	Jerry	1184 Rudi Lane	Golden	CO	80403	303-642-0553	jktynan@q.com
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Weide	Larry	5270 Nassau Cir. E.	Englewood	CO	80113	303-758-8382	lweide@msn.com
Whitehouse	C. Bart	3 Sunset Lane	Greenwood Village	CO	80121	303-781-4177	whitehouse205@hotmail.com
Wick	Don	1475 Symphony Heights	Monument	CO	80132	719-488-9469	dowick@comcast.net
Wilfley	Robert	5468 S Elk Way	Aurora	CO	80016	303-693-0324	wilfleyR@aol.com
Wood	Steve	3313 W Saratoga Ave	Englewood	CO	80110	303-798-2682	nlogm@netscape.com
Wooters	Barney	8303 E. Mansfield Ave.	Denver	CO	80237	303-770-5314	bnjwooters@gmail.com
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## Photos from September 8th Meeting at the Miller Library in Castle Rock



Chris Cartright  
New Member



Dave Boyle talks about budget



Larry Weide talks about the success of the  
annual club auction



Barney Wooters with Brighton True Blue  
tubes & DeForst Audion, 1910



Dennis Laurence with  
1953 Emerson he restored



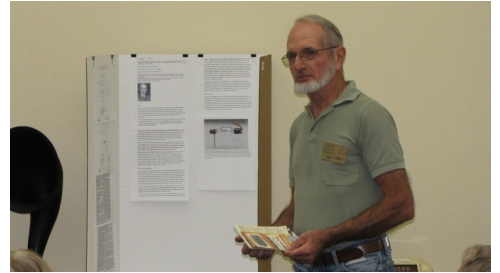
Neil Gallensky with solid state radio  
mounted in an electrical box



Mark Kuligowski with  
Japanese radio circa 1959



Tom Pouliot with Griebel Synchro Phase



Wayne Russert with printed information  
he has collected



Tom Zaczek's with RCA 65X2 that he  
has repaired the Bakelite on



Tom auction off  
Barney's Hickok tube tester



Great turnout at the meeting



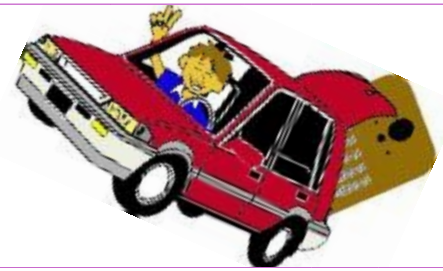
Dave asks for volunteers for club officers,  
but there are no takers

As noted in the caption at left, our current club president has asked for volunteers to step forward to put their names up for accepting a position as a club officer. **NOT ONE person has offered to do this.** What a sad state of affairs. Over the years many people have filled these positions. Now, almost no one wants to do it. You have to wonder why this is. Are you bashful? Do you think it's too hard for you? Don't have the time? Well, why not YOU? The day will come when if it's not you, then it's no one, and rest assured, that day will come. What a shame it will be when that happens. Only you can make sure that that day never comes. Come on, It's not too late to participate.



## *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**

Most of the following instruments have been completely refurbished, repaired as needed, and calibrated

Most have manuals and test leads.

Prices are negotiable so please make an offer.

1) Eico Capacitor Tester, Model 950 , also tests for leakage and resistance. \$63.00

2) HP 608 F VHF Signal Generator, with scope cart, also spare special tubes, and manual. Free to a good home!

3) Eico 5inch oscilloscope, Model 425 Completely gone-thru, new hi-voltage caps, all out of spec parts replaced, **NEW CRT!**, etc. \$68.00

4) Eico "Professional" VTVM.6 inch wide meter. \$45.00

5) RCA Institute RF Signal Generator All standard frequency ranges and 400 Hz audio frequency too. \$30.00

6) Heathkit TV Alignment Generator, Model IG-52. \$25.00

7) HP 651 B Test Oscillator, rack mounting with manual. 10 Hz to 10 MHz.

Make offer!

8) Ballantine Labs. Model 321 VTVM.true RMS and p-p measurements. Rack mounting with manual. Make offer!

**David Boyle, 303-681-3258**

Philco Model 91 *complete working* radio chassis with two good speakers and a working tuning shadow meter! One 8 inch and one 12 inch. Call for negotiable price.

**David Boyle, 303-681-3258** 11/13

Wanted: 1920's Wooden Horn Speakers and a Crosley Musicone Speaker.

Also 1920's battery sets, especially Neutrodyne sets, Pre 1930 AC Radios and a

Crosley Widget Console Radio

Michael O'Leary 602-354-7011  
[moleary9@cox.net](mailto:moleary9@cox.net).

**WANTED:** To buy: 1948 Motorola 5A9B portable radio, Maroon color. Good condition only.

Dewey Reinhard 719-596-5516  
[deweyfly30@gmail.com](mailto:deweyfly30@gmail.com)

**WANTED:** Broadcast or recording mics, especially from 20's to 1950's.

Shirt pocket transistor radios, working or not.

NBC chimes, all eras.

**Tom Keeton** 303-797-8073

I have collected radios of all types for 30 years and now it is time to let them go to new homes.

Please call me for an appointment to see if any of them would fit in your collection.

I have tube radios including Tombstone, Cathedral, and Novelty etc.

I also have a large collection of transistor radios both shirt pocket and Novelty type.

Please call 303-238-1384  
Thanks in advance,  
Ron Smith

**[RADIOS4US@aol.com](mailto:RADIOS4US@aol.com)**

### **Custom Embroidered CRC LOGO on Shirts and Hats** Only \$5.00 + Tax per Garment

- Choose the LOGO size - up to 3" high
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- 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

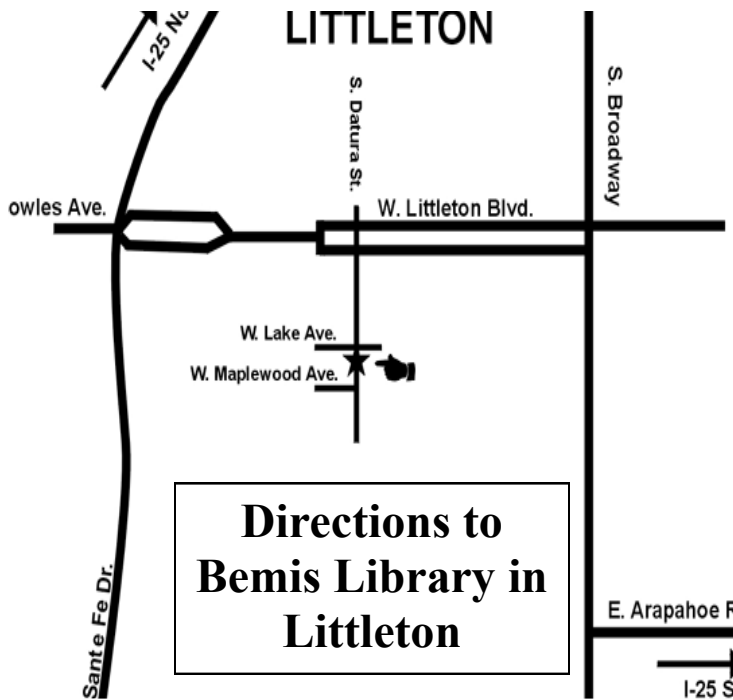
### **SUBMISSION OF ARTICLES & ADVERTISEMENTS**

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. Submit to Steve Touzalin 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 12th, 1:00 meeting will be at the Bemis Library in Littleton



## Directions to Miller Library in Castle Rock

From I-25: Take the Plum Creek Parkway, exit #181.  
Turn East onto Plum Creek Parkway.  
Turn Left (North) onto S. Wilcox Street and continue north 2 tenths of a mile.  
The Philip S. Miller Library is on the east side of the street at 100 S. Wilcox St.  
The building is towards the back of the parking lot, past the Dairy Queen.

Special Topic for this months meeting

Bring your favorite...or worst "basket case" radio project and tell us about it.



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

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**