



SOUND WAVES

VRPS JANUARY 2013

From the President



I have been privileged to do this job (president thingie) for several years now. In doing so, I have been able to make some observations that tend to hold true year after year. Observation number one is that the members of the VRPS organization are by and far true collectors. By that, I mean they are constantly seeking great finds ...sometimes at bargain prices. But, while seeking that rare item, they keep an eye out for opportunities to help fellow collectors. Another observation I see over and over is that we like to admire other's talents and are not afraid to acknowledge someone else's ability to repair, restore, or nicely refinish a collectible. In other words, we appreciate good

collections that result from someone taking the time to bring the items back from the dead. A third observation is a result of having attended 35 annual conventions. VRPS members really enjoy getting together at this annual event. Because we do not all live in the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex, this has actually become a reunion of sorts. But, more than the friendly smiles and handshakes, I see folks pitching into help in the numerous activities. Thank you for doing that.

I could list a lot more of my observations as I serve as your President, but I will stop with this last one. Each year on the last day of our convention, we have hosted a flea market in the convention center. I have seen this Sunday morning event grow from year to year. I have also noted year after year that folks ...probably in a hurry to get back to their home and play with their new toys, tend to leave something behind. I am typically the last one to leave the convention area, so I have sort of self-assigned myself as the keeper of those left over items. The most recent convention saw only two items left behind for me to carry home. Neither were radios...instead, both were dollies. One has already found its true owner because it was properly marked with a name. The other one's owner has yet to be identified! If you left a dolly in the flea market area on Sunday morning, please contact me to take back ownership. Otherwise, Merry Christmas to me!!!

I am excited about 2013 and the numerous opportunities coming our way to get together - flea markets, meetings, auctions...what fun!! Good hunting.

Jim.

2013 MONTHLY MEETING PROGRAMS

NOTE: Programs will be held at various locations in Irving, Texas. Make note of the location as they will change from time to time. Senter East, 228 Chamberlain St.; or Garden and Arts, 906 S Senter Rd, will be the locations... Maps are located on the WEB site, EVENTS page. Programs start at 2pm. unless otherwise noted. Call us on the cell tellie if you get lost: 972-898-7251 or 972-742-8085.

JANUARY 19, Senter East Building

Cabinet refinishing has always been a challenge for the casual and seasoned radio-phonograph collector. This month, our program will be presented by our guest, Jason Phillips, a thirty year experienced furniture and woodworking specialist. He will address the problems and possible solutions to restoring our wood cabinets with lots of tips and suggestions.

FEBRUARY 16, Garden and Arts Building

The Radio Museum website (<http://www.radiomuseum.org/>) is a very popular Antique Radio website, with a typical day having 1000 Radio Museum members and 30,000 guests visiting the site. John Kusching will be giving a presentation describing the purpose of the website, how the site operates and also discussing the many features built into the website that can be very useful to radio restoration and collecting.

MARCH 16, Senter East Building

Spring Auction. 8am to 5pm. Note the location. Doors open 6am.

APRIL 20, Garden and Arts Building

Living in Texas, we all have interest in the weather at one time or another and have sought info on our radios. Walt Zaleski, who works for NWS, National Weather Service, will highlight the history and structure of the NWS, with primary focus on the year round weather hazards and subsequent impacts that affect the state of Texas. Walt will provide tips on changing weather conditions through a wide array of monitoring systems, including such tools as near real-time radar data, satellite information and weather observation monitoring and weather model output sources. He will also show how the agency interacts with national/local media and private weather companies, in the dissemination of critical life saving warning and forecast information to the public.

MAY 18, Senter East Building Parking Lot

Tail Gate Swap Meet. 8am to Noon.

Programs are subject to change, contingent on scheduling conflicts. As always, your suggestions for programs/content are welcome. If the programs do not fit your needs and you want something different, let me know. I need volunteers to organize other programs, so consider presenting a program yourself. Call me anytime or send me an email. Mike Grimes 972-898-7251 (cell), or K5MLG@verizon.net.

Pictures from the Convention



Previewing Auction Items
Great items at reasonable prices



Members Bidding
Marsha and Tony front center



Saturday Auction
The tubes alone are worth the price!



Great Banquet Entertainment
Those were the days!



Great auction item with all its knobs.



Another Great Auction Item
With all its knobs and pushbuttons!

2012 VRPS Convention Old Equipment Contest Winners

1. Crystal Radios - Jim Collings (Mystery Radio W/Box)
2. Battery Receivers Pre 1928 - Gilbert Hedge (Hyatt Portable Radio With antenna In Lid)
3. AC Table Radios Pre WW2 - Walt Zalesky (Kadette 1024)
4. AC/DC Tube Radios - Ron Schneider (RCA Victor 3-BX-671)
5. Transistor Radios Pre 1965 - Larry Lamia (2 Regency TR 99's)
6. Phonographs and Related Accessories Pre1928 - Tom Lamia (Majestic AC/DC Radio/Phono)
7. Loudspeakers - Sam Luscomb (O'Neill Dancing Nymphs Cone Speaker)
8. Military and Amateur Radio Equipment - Jim Sargent (Homebrew 1 Tube Transmitter)
9. Novelty Radios - Mary Ann Caruth (Display of Star Command Robot Radios)
10. Art Deco - No Entries
11. Vacuum Tubes - (Tie)
 - Dale Allen (Display of Raytheon Mechanical TV Tubes)
 - David Moore (1959 Russian X-Ray Tubes and Fluoroscope Screen)
12. Restoration Category - Fred Taylor (Philco 23X Console Radio)
13. Open Category - Larry Whitlock (1938 Philco Radiobar Chairside Radio)
14. Car Radios - Rich Klarr (Early 1950's Ford Radio)
15. Convention Theme Motorola - Olin Shuler (Collection of Motorola Items)
16. Radio Related Advertising and Ephemera - (Tie)
 - Tom Burgess (Crosley Point of Sale Optical Illusion Sign)
 - Mary Ann Caruth (Display of Heathkit Catalogs With a Talking Robot)
17. Early Homebrew/Kit Radios - Tom Burgess (Very Early Homebrew Radio With 2 Detectors- Crystal and Electrolytic)
18. First Time Entry From a VRPS Member- Bob Gwinn (Display of 4 1959 Zenith FM Radios)

SPECIAL AWARDS



Peoples' Choice & Best of Show

Fred Taylor
PHILCO 23X Console



President's Award

Tom Burgess
Crosley Advertisement

Notes from the October 20, 2012 Meeting

As he has been doing lately, **President Jim Sargent** asked us to go around the room and announce our names and cities to all the other members. This is helping us to connect names with faces and with hometowns that may also be our own. He introduced Program director Mike Grimes, who conducted our meeting program. The topic was a show-and-tell, with emphasis on short-range wireless radio transmitters, including remote controls. Members brought a number of AM transmitters, either made from kits or commercially available.

John Copeland displayed his Knight Kit AM transmitter and its schematic. **Mike Grimes** displayed and discussed his transmitter that was designed for use by real-estate sales people. It uses a tape loop that was played and broadcast at a frequency posted on a sign in front of the home for sale. A potential customer or realtor could tune his car radio to that frequency to listen to the sales pitch. He also showed three examples of Knight Kits, mentioning that he had one many years ago.

Greg Littleton demonstrated his modern, commercially-made transmitter obtained via HobbyBroadcaster.net (previously CampusBroadcaster.net) for about \$200.00. It is an elaborate system that will accept many types of inputs and broadcast AM or FM signals. He mentioned IMRadio as a good online source for listening material. **Jim Sargent** discussed several Knight Kits and their technical differences.

John Isbell showed a Zenith wooden multi-powered portable radio, having a 1U5 oscillator and using a 67 ½ volt battery. He also displayed a simple and interesting wireless electronic organ. Its exactly-spelled trade name was "ELTRONOVOX". There was some discussion about early electronic organs. John says he is going to get it working (and hopefully demonstrate it to us).

Kenny Black showed an Airline movie-dial chrome chassis (made by Wells-Gardner), with 35mm movie film containing the station information for projection onto the dial screen. He also mentioned that he is learning to use toning lacquers. (All should learn this process so they can re-finish radios to match those that the factory produced).

Cleo Cherryholmes told us about his first electronics project, which was a transmitter kit by Concord Radio. He got an electric shock in the process of learning the technology. He mentioned that Kadette made a remote transmitting unit that provided the station tuning and then broadcast a signal across the room to the main radio at a fixed

frequency.

Billy Smith showed an interesting early single-tube home-brew that he came across. It contained a Cunningham BBT C-11 (equivalent to WD-11). The socket has an interesting way of adapting to the tube base difference, allowing a No. 30 tube to be used, if desired.

The author brought and discussed an AM broadcast transmitter he made just recently using a circuit design pieced together from circuits available over the Internet, with some added features of his own (see author's notes).

Following the members' presentations, **Jim Sargent** showed interesting slides (a DVD) from the TITANIC exhibit at the Illinois Antique Radio Club gathering in Willowbrook Illinois. The exhibit contained Marconi equipment and training materials from the 1910-1912 era, including a DCM294C "valve" radio receiver. The exhibit had been put together in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the TITANIC disaster

Author's Notes: A valuable tip gleaned from the internet was applying an old UHF TV converter as a building block. I happened to have one like another hobbyist had used (a Blonder-Tongue). The old converter makes a good cabinet and contains much of what is needed – especially a power transformer (for isolation) and two 7-pin miniature tube sockets. Because I added a standard tuning "condenser", it was even possible to add a dial and make the transmitter frequency track the dial indications. The circuit design uses a 6CS6 for its oscillator – a tube used in earlier TV sets as a switch. This pentagrid tube does not have remote cutoff, so it does not distort the audio, even with 70% modulation.

There are some solid-state circuit designs out there as well, and they will obviously operate with much less standby power, having no filaments or heaters.

There is a fascinating book titled "History of the Radio Officer in the British Merchant Navy and on Deep-Sea Trawlers" by Joanna Greenlaw. She was a radio officer working for Marconi on merchant ships during WWII. The book is full of history related to the Marconi Company and her experiences as a radio officer. She includes a copious Appendix with copies of Marconi correspondence and documents. There are also schematic diagrams of the Marconi equipment and a discussion as to how the Marconi Magnetic Detector functions. There are copies of the book available from Internet book sellers.

Bill McKeown

Pictures from the Christmas Party



Silent Auction Items



Yummy Desserts



Fabulous Door Prizes



Lois with her winning ticket



Recipes from the Christmas Party



Jeannine's Vegetarian Quinoa Tabbouleh Salad

- 1 cup quinoa
- 2 cups water or vegetable broth
- 1 large or two medium tomatoes, chopped small
- 1 cucumber, chopped (optional)
- 4 scallions, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tbsp chopped fresh mint
- 1/2 cup chopped fresh parsley
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup lemon juice
- 1/2 tsp salt, or to taste

Preparation:

In a medium pot, cover quinoa in water or vegetable broth and bring to a boil. Reduce heat to a slow simmer, cover, and allow to cook about 15 minutes, or until quinoa is cooked and most of the liquid has been absorbed.

In a large bowl, combine tomatoes, cucumbers, scallions, garlic, fresh mint and fresh parsley. Add cooked quinoa, olive oil, lemon juice and salt, tossing gently to combine well. Season with salt, to taste.

Chill for at least one hour before serving, preferably overnight, to allow flavors to mingle.

New VRPS Member Kenny Black



Kenny (Butch) Black, a relative new member of VRPS and new to Radio Collecting, retired from Central Freight Lines after forty years. He has resided in Euless, Texas most of that time, having been originally from Kansas. Earlier interests were vintage car collecting and restoration, as well as clocks and Voranado Fans. He is a skilled finisher, re-finisher/restorer of wood as demonstrated by some fine examples of his radio cabinets. Butch has a good eye for unique designs and has many, beautiful consoles completely restored. His next goal is to learn radio chassis repair and restoration.

-- Submitted by Mike Grimes

Compulsive Collector's Corner

Daunting Tasks: Case Study - El Charro
Zenith 6-S-27 (1936)

Not looking at the auction items beforehand, and sitting on the back row where you cannot see clearly, may result in surprises:

what seemed to be metal grill was actually charred wood. Oh well, as someone mentioned at the time - a natural for the restoration category! The photo below shows the original ivory color under the (missing) escutcheon.

-- Submitted by Mary Ann Caruth

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Note from the Editor
You may notice new columns in forthcoming issues--Daunting Tasks, Was that My Bid Card? and Shelf Queens. I would be happy to include your submissions in these or in regular columns such as Tips from the Workbench.

If you have anything you would like to contribute, please send it to mcaruth@att.net.



Coming Soon

HVRA 34th Annual Convention
& Two Day Auction February 8 & 9, 2013
Houston Marriott North at Greenspoint, Houston, TX

For info, see www.hvra.org

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