ARCI NEWS

www.antique-radios.org

THE ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB OF ILLINOIS

Affiliated AWA
Antique Wireless Association

Volume 46, Issue 5
October 2026



ARCI CALENDAR

Event	Location	Day and Date	Time
Swap meet	American Legion	Saturday, October 10, 2026	8:00 am
Virtual Forum	Your Computer	Saturday, November 14, 2026	10:00 am
Swap meet	American Legion	Saturday, December 5, 2026	8:00 am

American Legion Hall Meetings are located at: Post 76
570 S Gary Ave
Carol Stream, IL 60188

ARCI Virtual Forum video sessions are held
10 AM to 11:30 AM Central time, check-in starts: 9:45 AM Central Time
Generally held on the 3rd Saturday in non-summer months

Agenda items (subject to change): History
Tips & Tricks
Technical
How-to's
Show & Tell
Items for sale
Open chat session

To find out more, email: antique-radios.org/contact

Cover Photo *1920s Wolf and Co New York Halloween Postcard*

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THE ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB OF ILLINOIS

WELCOME TO ARCI

Visit ARCI on the WEB

Website: www.antique-radios.org

FaceBook: https://www.facebook.com/ARCI.org

YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/@AntiqueRadioClubofIllinois

Join ARCI

https://www.antique-radios.org/join

-or-

Use the application in this newsletter

Leadership

President	Tom Kleinschmidt
Vice President	Tom Zaczek
Treasurer	Rudy Hecker
Secretary	Alan Gard
Membership	Elaine Hecker
Radiofest chair	Tom Kleinschmidt
Director on-line events	Matt Pollack
ARCI News editor	Maureen Blevins

Contact ARCI

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Antique Radio Club of Illinois is a registered non-profit in the state of Illinois.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
October 2026



Major Events

ARCI had two very successful events since the last newsletter. Our signature event: Radiofest EXPO XLIII on Friday, July 31 and Saturday, August 1st, and VCFMW 21 on Saturday, September 12 and Sunday, September 13 as a promotion of vintage radio and electronics. Both are covered separately in this issue.

Annual Business Meeting and Election

This year the annual business meeting and election will be held on-line in a ZOOM meeting. Historically, participation at a swap meet at the end of either the October or December event for this activity is spotty. As a dedicated event, this is an opportunity for more people to join in. We are targeting November for the meeting. The specific date and time will be posted via a Mailchimp announcement email.

Capital Equipment Purchases

Over the last few years ARCI has upgraded much of the electronic equipment used at Radiofest Expo and for other club needs. They were completely funded out of the treasury. These are durable items used over multiple years. As such, their cost is NOT included with each year's Radiofest Expo expenses. Here is the list:

2023 Video projector for auction and presentations $1333
2025 Video camera, wireless microphone, wireless video link $1849
(Video link returned due to poor performance – cost is without link)
2026 Wireless video link for video camera $406
(This one works a treat)
2026 Three computers for auction $2833
2026 Membership computer $961
2026 Programmable LED sign, pedestal & computer $577

This is all made possible from membership dues and donated item sales. Thank you for your financial support that keeps ARCI financially strong!

The numbers

Treasury
$32,778.38 – September 14, 2026
$38,399.30 – June 9, 2026
$37,956.75 - May 20, 2026
$35,857.01 - April 20, 2026

Membership

Sept 14, 2026: 240 – down 19
August newsletter: 259 – added 2 since last report

Subscribers

Sept 14, ARCI Google Group email: 639 - flat
Sept 14, ARCI Mailchimp announcements email: 1309 – up 1
Sept 14, YouTube Channel: 289 –up 2
Sept 14, Facebook page: 2474 – up 10

Virtual Forums

Oct 03, 2026 Virtual forum will be history when this newsletter arrives. You will have gotten notification via a Mailchimp email announcement with ample notice. See article on the November Virtual Forum in this issue.

Next Swap Meet

October 10, 2026, doors open 8 AM
Outdoors if weather permits, indoor tables - always
Free Coffee, water, & donuts and club information inside.

We have another large load of donations to sell too!

Location:
American Legion
570 S Gary Ave
Carol Stream, IL 60188

See you on the 3rd and the 10th!

Tom Kleinschmidt,
President

ARCI ONLINE

By Tom Zaczek

ARCI Virtual Forum #41
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2026, 10AM CT

Join in on your computer, pad or phone to be a part of ARCI's Virtual Forum video meetings! You don't need to be an ARCI member!

ARCI's Virtual Forum continues in 2026 with new presenters and presentations... The 41st virtual forum will be the last of four virtual Forums for 2026. The Virtual Forum is a place to share what you have been doing with your radio related activities through presentations, "show and tells" and open discussions. Join in just to watch and chat or give a presentation in the areas of radio restoration, company history, and technology, just to name a few.

How to join in: Stay tuned to the emails from ARCI for the registration link for this meeting. We send one out a week or two before and the day before the Virtual Forum.

Almost immediately after registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing the link required to join the meeting. **IMPORTANT**- You need to receive the confirmation email back because this link gets you into the meeting when the time comes. So, if you don't receive the confirmation email, it could be in your spam folder.

ARCI is on YouTube: We have a backlog of unedited video from prior Virtual Forums that we need help editing and processing to put on YouTube. If you have expertise in this area or know someone who can volunteer to help us, please let us know at: remote-events@antique-radios.org

If you can't attend the meeting, you can watch them on-line later! Prior Virtual Forums are available on ARCI's own YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/@AntiqueRadioClubofIllinois

Check it out! Each video has a "table of contents" (where it says SHOW MORE) beneath the main video window that you can click on and go directly to that topic or presentation, so it's easy to watch just one specific presentation. Visit ARCI's YouTube channel where you can click the free "subscribe" button and get notified when a new video comes out.

There is also a complete index of all prior presentations and show & tells with links that go right to the specific presentation or topic of discussion. There are more than 160! On the YouTube home page linked above, go to the "ABOUT" tab

and under "LINKS" you will see the link to this index. Here it is: Full Index of Presentations After clicking this link if you do not go direct to the index, please click the "GO TO SITE" link that appears.

AGENDA

9:45 AM – OPTIONAL PRE-MEETING – Time to get logged-in and troubleshoot any access issues.

10:00 AM – Meeting Agenda

- **INTRODUCTION** – Tom Zaczek (moderator)
- **PRESENTATIONS:** All of the presentations have not been lined up yet for this virtual forum, but this section is where we have several 15-to-25-minute presentations of interest in the areas of radio restoration, company history, and technology, just to name a few. Let us know if you have an idea for a presentation!
- **SHOW & TELL, TIPS & TECHNIQUES** 1-to-5-minute informal presentation of something you'd like to share with the meeting … Join in and spend a few minutes to show your item, a helpful tip, radio restoration technique, or how you solved a tough restoration problem.
- **ARCI SWAP MEETS** - An update on the upcoming swap meet and on the one we just held
- **ITEMS WANTED----ITEMS FOR SALE**
- **OPEN SESSION**: Non-moderated chat session as time permits.

12:00 Noon – Close

ARCI Virtual Forum Remaining Schedule

Saturday, November 14, 2026

Be a presenter!

We have seen so many great presentations this past year by folks that *never* made a presentation before! You can do this! The Virtual Forum meeting team can help you learn how to make a Power-Point presentation, or prepare some simple photo slides. If you have some photos and a good idea, we can even make presentation slides for you! We can help you install Zoom on your computer and do a dry-run. It's easy!

Share your radio restoration, collection, research or whatever with a 10-minute or longer presentation. Take that first step and send us an email with your presentation idea to remote-events@antique-radios.org.

Become a member of ARCI!
These meets are open to everyone interested in antique radio. You do not need to be a member of ARCI. If you like these meets, your support of the organization is truly appreciated. Please consider joining ARCI. Your membership dues help support the club's activities. Please click this link for the membership form: Antique Radio Club of Illinois (antique-radios.org) or membership form editable pdf or use the form on the last page of this newsletter.

I look forward to the upcoming meetings and hope you get a chance to attend. I encourage you to be a presenter to share your experiences, knowledge, and passions about these old radios!

~ Tom Zaczek

The ARCI Virtual Forum Team: Tom Kleinschmidt, Bill Cohn, Matt Pollack and Tom Zaczek are the ARCI On-Line Meeting Team and can be reached via email at remote-events@antique-radios.org



RENEWALS

DO YOU KNOW WHEN YOU WILL EXPIRE?

Or, more specifically, your ARCI Membership? The address label shows your expiration month. It takes time to process renewal requests, so please renew at least one month BEFORE the month indicated on the label. This also helps ensure that you will continue receiving your *ARCI NEWS* without interruption.

Look on the last page of this newsletter for the renewal form.

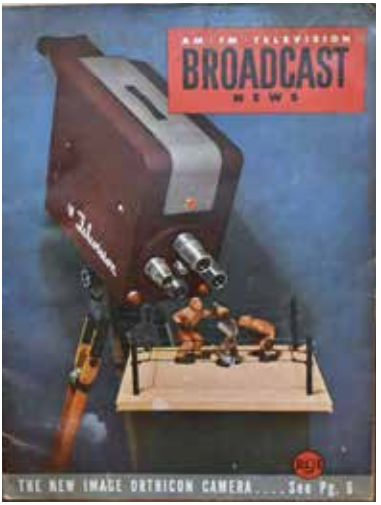
ARCI RADIOFEST PHOTOS

August 2026 Photos *photos by Daniel Schoo*














EDISON
RECORD





































You can find more photos here: https://www.antique-radios.org/news-and-updates

ARCI RADIOFEST EXPO XLIII 2026 - RECAP

Despite the rain, we had an excellent event. The severity of the rain made it impractical to set up for outdoor sales. Many planned outdoor sellers moved into the Shriners ballroom, filling all the tables and more. Sellers reported excellent sales and comradery at a heightened level plus easy access to food and restrooms. The building's entrance portico made for easy and dry loading and unloading both days.

Old radio programs were playing in the lobby across from registration, courtesy of Paul Iverson. Registration and table reassignment were excellently managed by Elaine Hecker and Mary Johnson.

The Friday auction gross sales were $32,565, another increase! ARCI donations sales at the auction yielded $575 from seven lots. More details are in the section for the auction.

Four radios were left at the end of the auction. Three of them have their owners identified and arrangements made to reunite. One Philco table radio remains. If you are missing a Philco table radio and can describe it, it may be one you "lost".

We had a record amount of equipment and related radio items brought in from ARCI storage. The team filled the 15' U-Haul truck twice! Donations are getting bigger all the time. As an aside - in this year's local swap meets the donations have filled a 12' enclosed trailer vs. just a minivan and short bed pickup truck and we still had a lot in storage. Additionally, many participants kindly donated more items at the event. The donation sales room had 30 six-foot tables overflowing. The perimeter of the room was stacked with books, phonograph records, and consoles. Sales from the donation room were $3897.

Theft is still occurring: the donation room does not have a lock; we rely on the honor system. Not all participants are honorable. Just before the room opened, we noticed three tubes (45,45,80) missing from an Atwater Kent chassis and a missing, somewhat provocative, female singer phonograph record – the person that organized the records discovered.

Radiofest Expo XLIII paid for itself with some cash to spare:

Income: $14,453
Expense: $12,961
Gain: $1,492

Historically, year-on-year costs have up to a $3,000 gain or loss. The team continues to scrutinize expenses to keep your participation cost low and strives to make the event self-supporting while maintaining the activities you enjoy.

Two expenses were intentionally eliminated this year (they would have been wasted due to the outdoor swap meet being rained out, which was unknown at the time of decision). Here were their 2025 costs:

Golf cart rental: $448
The plan was to use a member pickup truck in 2026 to move radio gear around. Rental of golf cart / ATV for the purpose also increased for 2026.

Porta-potty and washing station: $552
There are ample clean restroom facilities in the Shriners building, a short walk from the Parking lot.

Together that saved ARCI $1,000+.

Two excellent talks were presented:
Kent King - *The Chronology of E. H. Scott Serial Numbers*
John Reincke - *Radio Troubleshooting 101*

Event pictures by club photographer Dan Schoo are on the ARCI website under Radiofest: https://www.antique-radios.org/post/radiofest-aug-2026

Weather has become a significant factor for this event and for our outdoor lives in general. In the past four years the event has been impacted by rain twice and blistering heat once. Last year was very pleasant - that is only 25% of the events! Nature is sending us a message; indoors may be the norm going forward. Fortunately, we have had indoor selling for several years in addition to outdoor selling. Indoor selling saved the event this year!

Lot #	Lot Price	Lot Name
100-1	45	Sonora KTU87-89 1940 and Crosley F-SMY 1953
100-2	45	Silvertone 7037 1941 Refinished
100-3	40	Coronado 43-8576 1946 Refinished
100-4	35	Airline Model 288 1938
100-5	75	Hallicrafters Sky Champion 1939
101-1	0	Clarion Model 70 1931
101-2	0	MusicMaster Model VI Wooden Horn 1924
101-3	500	Philco PAM Clock 1955
101-4	0	RCA Model T9-10 1936
101-5	325	RCA Radio Service Sign LED
102-1	150	Crosley Pup 1925 Plays
102-2	50	Zenith 5D611W 1942 Restored
102-3	160	Sansui QRX-5500 1972 Quad Receiver
102-4	55	Crosley 124 Playtime 1931
102-5	60	Musique Model 4 Courier
102-6	110	Kent Model 147 Restored
102-7	190	Midwest Model 62 Recapped
103-1	875	DeForest Radio w/ P-500 1920 Display Tube
103-2	300	Musicmaster Horn Mahogany 1924
103-3	525	GGH Horn Yellow Celluloid 1924
103-4	230	Federal model 59 1923
103-5	180	AMRAD model 3500-2 1923
104-1	110	Tubes 3 flats some NOS, some 6L6
104-2	25	National NC-183D 1950s with tubes
105-1	300	1950's/60's Hickok TV-7 Tube Tester w/Tech Manual
105-2	65	RCA Metal Logo Badge 5" Diameter
105-3	225	1938 Howard 450A
105-4	400	1930's National HRO
105-5	110	Vacuum Tubes Box Lot of 6SN7, 6SL7 Tubes Untested
106-1	0	2927/28 RCA Victor Radiola 18
106-2	75	1937 Motorola 5T
106-3	50	1937 Crosley Fiver 517
106-4	0	1934/35 GE M-50
107-1	0	1939/40 Trustone Stratosphere 636
107-10	65	1946 Belmont 6D-111
107-11	0	1932 GE M-81
107-12	0	Grundry Fleetwood 97CA
107-13	0	Bristol SR Horn Speaker
107-14	0	1946 Crosley Duette 56-TD
107-15	75	1934 Emerson 19
107-16	65	5 Boxes of Tubes
107-17	160	1936 Atwater 82
107-18	275	Dynaco ST-70
107-19	400	Dynaco/Dynakit Mark III

107-2	0	1936 Kalette International 120
107-20	0	1941 Belmont Gamble Skogmo C640
107-3	190	1930's Atwater Kent 90
107-4	190	1929 Balkeit Lighted Sign
107-5	0	1946 Belmont 642
107-6	100	Music Master Spruce Horn
107-7	0	1940 Belmont 5D-128
107-8	0	1939 Wards Airr 93BR509A
107-9	0	1946 Truetone Stratoscope D-2615
108-1	75	Late 1930's Emerson DD-315 (Cone)
108-2	0	Late 1930's Emerson EC-347
109-1	0	Belmont 5D08 Recapped
109-2	0	Fisher 460A Recapped comes w/bluetooth
109-3	40	Detrola 3101 Recapped
110-1	250	Zenith 7G605 1941
110-2	120	Zenith 5J217 1937
110-3	25	FADA Model 740 1940s
111-1	40	Tuska Model 225
111-10	25	Freed-Eiseman Model NR-7
111-11	35	Philco Model 70
111-12	45	Clarion Model 40 Junior
111-13	25	Hickok Tester Model 156
111-14	35	Montgomery Ward Model 62-368
111-15	25	Freed Eiseman Model NR-20
111-2	0	Atwater Kent Model 20 Big Box
111-3	25	Capital Radio
111-4	80	Howe Crystal
111-5	25	Philco Model 20
111-6	45	Crosley Model 125
111-7	60	Neutrowound 1927
111-8	45	Philco 37-89
111-9	0	Atwater Kent Model 35
112-1	0	Late 50's Zenith 19"
112-2	25	1970's Pioneer Laser Disc Video Player
112-3	0	1900 Sprague Fan
112-4	25	1948 RCA TV
112-6	0	Late 50's Jensen 12" 2 pieces in lot
112-7	0	Late 1950's Jensen 15" 2 way
112-8	0	1948 Sparton TV 12" Project TV
113-1	170	Deutscher Kleinempfanger 1941
113-2	110	Continental Piano Radio
114-1	85	1949 Motorola 7" TV
114-10	425	1923 Riley-Klotz Horn
114-2	0	1950's Zenith Transoceanic
114-3	80	1930's Silvertone

114-4	110	1970 Sony CRF-330K
114-5	40	1930's Chicago Amp
114-6	45	1950 Sargent-Rayment Hi-Fi Amp w/tubes
114-7	160	1960's Knight KA-55 Stereo Integrated Tube Amp
114-8	325	1940's Forway TV7B Tube Tester w/charts
114-9	40	1930's EH Scott 12 Tube Receiver Chassis w/tubes
115-1	25	Detrola Model 216 Jr. 1938
115-10	25	Zenith Royal 750L 1959
115-11	30	Emerson Model 540A
115-12	25	RCA Model 4-X-555 1955
115-13	75	Zenith Model 6D311 1939
115-14	110	Zenith Model B-600 1962
115-15	80	Packard Bell Kom Pak 1939
115-16	40	Detrola Wood Radio
115-17	60	Detrola Wood Radio
115-18	60	Sonora TV48 1941
115-19	150	Zenith Royal D7000Y
115-2	55	Westinghouse Aeriola Sr. 1922
115-20	100	Zenith 5S319 1939
115-3	0	Airline Midget 1939
115-4	40	Arvin Model 444 1946
115-5	25	Zenith Zenette 1949
115-6	50	Emerson Model 707 1952
115-7	25	Westinghouse H807T5 1961
115-8	85	FADA Model P38 Portable 1948
115-9	25	RCA Model 15X 1941
116-1	25	1960's Grundig Studio 2600
116-10	40	1960's Elvis Neon
116-11	160	Olympic-Silvertone Zenith 3 Radio Lot
116-12	55	1950's Philco Trutone Motorola 3-Radio Lot
116-13	25	1939-50's Monitoradio WestingHouse Bakelite 3-Radio Lot
116-14	45	1940's Emerson 2-Travler 3 Radio Lot
116-2	0	1939 Zenith Chairside Radio
116-3	70	1945 Westinghouse H-125 Refrigerator
116-4	500	1950's Emerson Clock
116-5	350	1930's Crosley Clock
116-6	0	1950's Sylvania Display
116-7	0	1930's Porto-Baradio Bar Radio
116-8	60	1960's Motorola Radio
116-9	25	1921 Victor 300
117-1	0	1925 Ducretet RM 7
118-1	120	1922 Grebe CR9
118-2	85	1923 Cutting & Washington 11A
118-3	25	1937 Philco 37602

119-1	280	Hallicrafters Lucite Clock Radio 1952
119-2	25	Heathkit PS-4 Power Supply
119-3	25	Heathkit PS-2
119-4	25	RCA Sign 1940s
120-1	45	1959 Granco 611
120-2	35	1936 Howard 47A
120-3	35	Early 30's Emerson
120-4	35	1934 Clarion 400
120-5	35	Tung Sol
120-6	35	1937 Silvertone 4789
121-1	130	Setchell Carlson Model 427 1948 Red Ivory
121-10	120	GE Beetle Model 1850 1939
121-11	55	Grantline Model 04BR-421B 1950 Mint
121-12	325	Crosley BuddyBoy 1931
121-13	290	Atwater Kent Model 627 1931
121-14	100	Atwater Kent Model 708 1932
121-2	130	Silvertone 3561 Candy Cane 1940
121-3	110	Arvin Model 956-T Pink Dual Speaker
121-4	220	Belmont Model 4B115 1950
121-5	75	Arvin 243T 1948 Red
121-6	170	Emerson Model 853 1954 Red
121-7	50	Crosley Model E10RD 1953
121-8	160	Majestic Model 2D60W 1939
121-9	100	Emerson Tombstone 1939
122-1	750	Burns Tortoiseshell Horn 1920s
122-10	240	Burns 1920s Horn
122-11	120	DeForest Model LS-300 1920s from Muchow
122-12	240	Moon Aluminum Speaker 1920s
122-13	35	Dictogrand 1920s
122-14	75	Radiola Model 103
122-15	1000	Timbretone Speaker
122-16	45	Atwater Kent Model M
122-17	40	Radiola Model UZ-1320
122-2	525	Clearfield 1920s Good Tubes
122-3	550	Crosley 3D Advertising Sign
122-4	130	Welch Scientific Demonstration Scope
122-5	300	Operadio Model 2 1920s
122-6	150	Atwater Kent Model R 1920s
122-7	140	Radio News Magazines (45) 1924-29
122-8	45	Weston Model 14 1890s Galvanometer
122-9	625	Nathaniel Baldwin Speaker and Headphones
123-1	575	National Model SW4
123-2	100	Silver Marshall Round-the-world
123-3	350	Zenith TransOceanic R-520 Military
123-4	170	Zenith TransOceanic

124-1	150	Magnavox Type R-5 Model B Horn 1923
124-10	30	Philco Model PT-25 1938
124-11	50	Farnsworth Model GT-051 1950
124-12	80	FADA Model 260 1935
124-13	100	Zenith 6S254 Restored 1938
124-2	70	Magnavox Type M-4 Model A Horn 1923
124-3	70	GE Model K-52 Cathedral
124-4	60	Zenith 6D644
124-5	120	Philco Model 45 Butterfly
124-6	75	Zenith 6D525 1939
124-7	65	Philco Model 60 1936 Early
124-8	40	Philco Model 38-12 1938
124-9	0	Emerson AX-211 Little Miracle 1942
125-1	0	RCA 44
125-2	375	1946-47 Garod 6AU-1 Commander
125-3	50	Crosley 11-117U
125-4	80	Crosley 11-115U
125-5	85	Crosley 11-119U
125-6	0	Hickok 6000 tube tester
126-1	125	1980's Panasonic 6 Barrel Radio
126-10	350	1930's Detrola Blue & White
126-11	3000	1930's Emerson Mae West
126-12	0	1930's Detrola Pee Wee
126-13	1800	1930's Crosley Coke Bottle Radio
126-14	0	1930's Philco Transitone
126-15	0	1930's Sentinal Beetle Push Button
126-2	40	Variac General Radio Co
126-3	0	Bose 301-Series 3
126-4	0	1940's RCA Tuna Boat Catabin Radio
126-5	0	Emerson
126-6	200	1930's Federal Plaskon
126-7	0	1940's RCA 6XS-88
126-8	700	1930's Silvertone Beetle Plastic White
126-9	0	1930's Detrola Red Catalin Knob & Grill
127-1	150	Drake R8 Communications Receiver
128-1	0	Philco 41-255 1940 Restored
129-1	250	Late 1950's Heathkit W4AM
129-2	25	General Radio
129-3	160	Collins R388
129-4	50	Stewart Warner Model 300
129-5	40	Hewlett Packard 3325B
129-6	25	Bozak B302A
129-7	0	EH Scott 510
129-8	25	Atwater Kent Model 20
130-1	750	Silvertone Model 6111 Rocket Radio 1938

130-2	25	Airline 04WG-611A 1941
130-3	0	Emerson 543 1947 Ivory Plaskon
130-4	40	Emerson EC 336 1940 Ivory Plaskon
130-5	50	Emerson EC-347 1940 Ingraham
130-6	45	Aetna 1936
131-1	65	Fisher Tube Receiver
131-2	25	Zenith Radio Plaster Sign
131-3	350	Arvin C9 Hopalong Cassidy Radio
131-4	1700	Emerson AU-190 Catalin
131-5	25	KLH Twenty-One Table Radio
131-6	0	Zenith 12U158 Console
131-7	25	Garrard Turntable with Shure Cart
131-8	50	Zenith B600 TransOceanic
132-1	0	B&O RL-60 Stereo Speakers
132-2	0	Standard Talking Machine Horn Phonograph
132-3	0	RCA Victor 8BT6 1936

About the Radiofest Auction - 2026

Here are some key statistics from the 2026 Radiofest auction.
94 Weatherproof bidders representing 17 states participated in the auction this year. 239 lots were consigned.

Year	Unique Registered Bidders	Unique Sellers	Lots Consigned
2026	94	33	239
2025	99	30	191
2024	94	40	174
2023	97	38	150
2022	103	46	201
2019	135	53	249
2018	137	59	292

The average sale price was $172 and the auction closed at 8:32 PM. 189 of the 239 lots consigned this year sold. That means the no-sale rate was at 21%. Of the 50 no-sale lots, 37 were radios, 5 were audio, and the rest were horns, TVs, phonographs, fans, advertising items, or test equipment. 43 of the 50 no-sale lots had unmet reserves totaling $11,005.

Year	Average Sale Price	Sold Lots	No Sale Rate
2026	$172	189	21%
2025	$154	143	25%
2024	$157	134	23%
2023	$145	119	20%
2022	$213	128	36%
2019	$260	177	29%
2018	$170	200	31.5%

The total sales were $32,565, up 47.6% from 2025. Here's how those figures compare to past auctions.

Year	Total Sales	% Change
2026	$32,565	+47.6%
2025	$22,065	+4.3%
2024	$21,150	+22.4%
2023	$17,280	-36.6%
2022	$27,260	-40.8%
2019	$46,045	+35.2%
2018	$34,050	-5.1%
2017	$35,885	+9.1%
2016	$32,900	+33.2%
2015	$24,705	-34.6%
2014	$37,783	+42.7%
2013	$26,480	+4.7%
2012	$25,300	+54.3%
2011	$16,400	---

Compared to 2025, the percentage of items in the $100~499 range grew, which aligns with the higher average sales price

Hammer Price	Lots Sold 2026	Lots Sold 2025	Lots Sold 2024
$500 or higher	15 (8%)	**11 (8%)**	7 (5%)
$250 ~ $499	**19 (10%)**	9 (6%)	**19 (14%)**
$100 ~ $249	**47 (25%)**	28 (20%)	**30 (22%)**
$50 ~ $99	44 (23%)	**46 (32%)**	22 (17%)
Less than $50	64 (34%)	49 (34%)	**56 (42%)**

The total price of the top 15 highest-priced lots was $14,375, up from $11,700 in 2025.

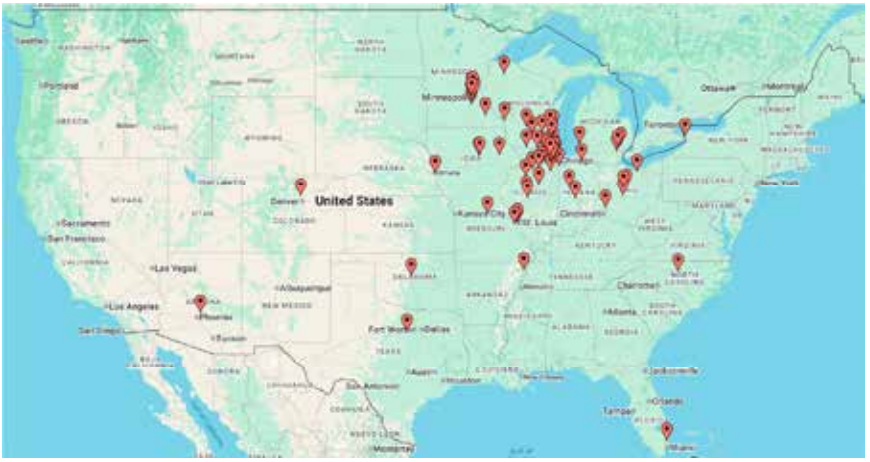
Top 15 Lots	Hammer Price
1930's Emerson Mae West	3000
1930's Crosley Coke Bottle	1800
Emerson AU-190 Catalin	1700
Timbretone Speaker	1000
DeForest Radio w/ P-500 1920 Display Tube	875
Burns Tortiseshell Horn 1920s	750
Silvertone Model 6111 Rocket 1938	750
1930's Silvertone Beetle Plastic	700
Nathaniel Baldwin Speaker and Headphones	625
National Model SW4	575
Crosley 3D Advertising Sign	550
GGH Horn Yellow Celluloid 1924	525
Clearfield 1920s Good Tubes	525
Philco PAM Clock 1955	500
1950's Emerson Clock	500

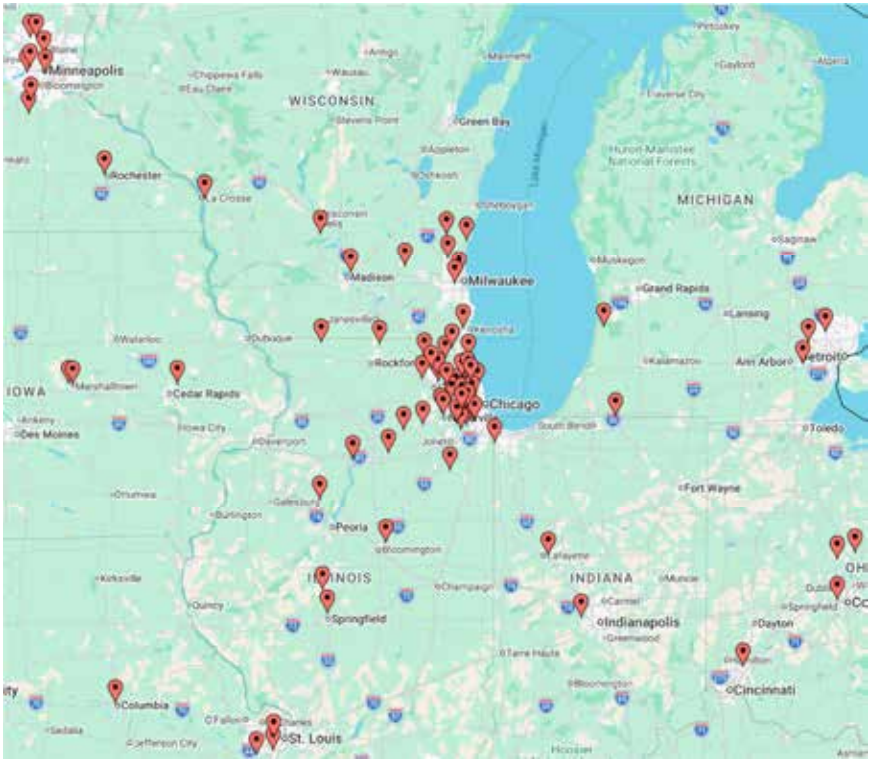
ARCI's donation lots brought in an additional $550 for the club. The auction had the following sources of income for ARCI:

Income Source	Amount
Buyer's Premium	$3,256
Bidder Cards (Buyers)	$160
Bidder Cards (Sellers)	$305
Lot Fees	$2,310
Donation Lot Sales	$550
TOTAL	**$6,581**

Of interest, the top two buyers account for $8,976 in auction purchases. The top two sellers account for $11,225 in auction sales

Auction Attendees Representation





An Overview of Amateur ("Ham") Radio - Part Two

By Richard C. Friedman (W9RCF)

Part One described Call signs, Frequencies, Modes, Activities, Public Service, Power and Equipment. But there is much more to ham radio.

Some hams use a PC not for digital communications but to research the information related to a call sign (WWW.QRZ.COM), and to record information about QSOs Figure 10 shows one such arrangement.



Figure 10

The room where hams have their equipment and operate is called a "ham shack" and Figure 11 shows one such shack – the author's.



Figure 11

Antennas have the greatest impact on the performance of a transmitter. Figure 12 shows a typical HF vertical antenna that can handle 5 to 9 bands, and up to 1500 watts – the legal limit in the US (except for one band where less power is allowed).

Figure 12





Figure 13

Figure 13 shows a typical antenna for VHF/UHF operation via the kind of transceiver shown in Figure 4 (see previous issue).

When the word "ham" is mentioned many people think of the kind of tower shown in Figure 14 and the type of antenna on top – termed a "**yaggi**" type. The antenna is designed so that all the transmission power is concentrated toward the direction to which the antenna is pointed. (Remember, the decibel described earlier?) This arrangement is usually used for long distance communication – "**DX**ing." Attached to the antenna is a motor that rotates the antenna, and Figure 15 shows one type of rotation controller.

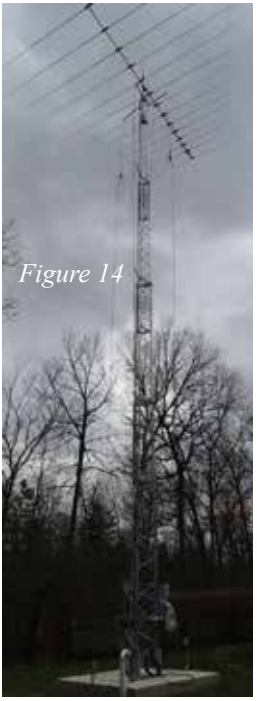


Figure 14



Figure 15

Another type of tower is the “roof tower”, which is no more than 8 feet high but can support a yaggi antenna, and thus allow DXing. Figure 16 shows a roof tower arrangement with a yaggi antenna.


Figure 16

Looking like an upside down spider web is the “hex beam” antenna; Figure 17 shows one.

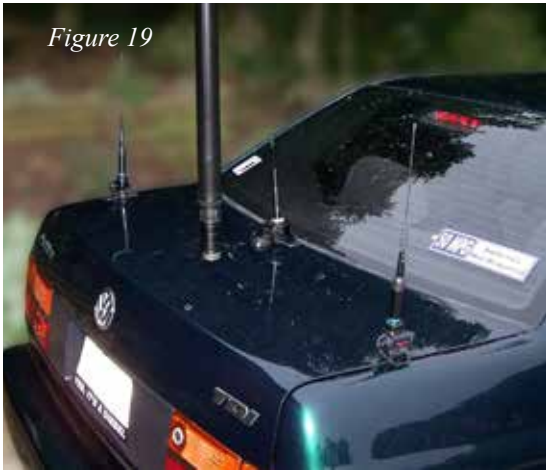

Figure 17

Many hams become very angry when the term HOA – Home Owners Association – is mentioned. HOAs do not permit towers or roof towers and maybe not even vertical antennas. But most allow small antennas on balconies and inside apartments. Some hams place antennas in the attics of their homes. Figure 18 shows a typical balcony antenna, which can be used for VHF/UHF and some HF.


Figure 18

In part one of this article the portability of some VHF/UHF transceivers was mentioned, and Figure 19 (next page) shows a typical vehicle antenna.

An antenna can be as simple as a long insulated wire of random length or a length based on the frequency to be used. A very popular use of wire is called a “**di-pole**”- the transmission/ reception cable is mechanically connected to the center of the wire; a center-fed di-pole. Di-poles can be bought or built in different lengths,


Figure 19

depending on the desired frequency. Another type of di-pole involves the cable connected to the end of the wire; an end-fed di-pole. Di-poles can be bought but many hams build their own.

Some hams design and build their own antennas in the search for the perfect antenna. It does not exist – every antenna has some drawback.

Propagation refers to how radio waves get from a transmitter to a receiver. Radio waves transmit in a straight line but can be reflected or diffracted by the atmosphere, and then bounce off the earth and up again into the atmosphere where additional reflection or diffraction occurs. If a signal is strong enough, the radio wave can reach around the earth and be received in very faraway places. Some Chicago area hams using CW or digital have made contact with New Zealand. There are several layers in the atmosphere, and different frequencies reflect/diffract off of different layers.

Operating

CW and SSB are the most used analog modes, and hams use them to communicate either by listening for another ham calling for contact (calling or keying "**CQ**"), then responding with the responders call sign. Or transmitting CQ and waiting for another ham to respond with his/her call sign. After exchanging call signs, the two hams continue to chat (called a **QSO**). Another way of making contact is for a ham to listen to other hams talking to each other, and when there is some silence to call or key CQ, and if one them responds with a call sign, join the QSO. A ham in a QSO signs off by calling/keying "**73**" – which means best wishes.

Digital modes of communication like FT4 and FT8 are gaining a large following because they require much less power to reach another ham. Like CW, no voice is involved; a transmitted signal is recorded on the computers of the sender and recipient, and the data is displayed on the computers monitors. Similar to FT4 and FT8, packet radio involves transmitting packets of data rather than intelligible messages.

If a ham's HT or base station equivalent is not working, he /she can download an app termed "**EchoLink**" to a computer, and use that app to connect via the Internet to another ham's transceiver and communicate. Similarly, when an HF transceiver is not working, an app termed "**SDR**" can be downloaded to a computer and used

to control another hams' transceiver. If the primary antenna is damaged, these apps can be used until the antenna is repaired or replaced.

---

*Some people believe that "ham" is an abbreviation of ham-fisted, referring to telegraphers who pounded hard on telegraph keys. Those first hams built everything from scratch, using "cats whiskers" and crystals because there were no vacuum tubes; and used headphones because there were no loudspeakers.

**The club I belong to, the North Shore Radio Club, maintains a repeater on top of a 550' building near Lake Michigan, and its repeated signals are heard in Michigan, Indiana and Wisconsin.

Credit is given to the American Radio Relay League, ARRL, which published License Manuals from which text and pictures have been taken. ARRL is an association of hams, and provides helpful services to members, and representation within government at all levels.

ARCI at VCFMW 21

By Tom Kleinschmidt

The **Vintage Computer Festival Midwest** (VCFMW) held on September 12 & 13, 2026 at the Schaumburg Convention Center is in its 21st year. Encompassing 100,000 square feet, up from 66,000 in 2025, it boasted all the exhibitor tables filled! Table price increased from $75 each in 2025 to $100 each for 2026; convention centers are expensive in the Chicago area. This was considered well worth the expense to grow awareness of vintage electronics.

ARCI had a big presence this year with eight tables - increased from two in 2025. A great club team with a great group of displays:

Larry Wright* - Early wireless and unique vacuum tubes
Dan Michaelson – Tube testing & history
Tom Zaczek – Radio restoration, Sony Watchman, mystery radio identification, early miniature data tape drive called Pereos by Datasonix
Xander Stadowski – 1950s to1970s radios and TV
Brenda Fruhauf – Club signage
Tom Kleinschmidt – Basics of AM superheterodyne
Bill Cohn, Barb Zaczek, Randall Renne*, Jeffery Renne, Rudy Hecker, and Keith Schreiter - also helped run the booth

Booth traffic was strong. Several visitors said they got interested in and repaired radios based on their visit to our booth at VCFMW in 2025. One gent did a YouTube video for his channel, repairing a 1940s Knight AM/FM table radio.

Our goal was met; to grow, educate and inspire! Many ARCI members came by and said hello, too.

These vintage computer events are hands-on experiences. Our oscilloscope displaying Amplitude Modulation and its audio tone was a magnet for people to explore the sweep rate and amplitude on the screen and adjust the percent modulation, radio frequency and audio gains. Knobs are made to be turned – don't need no stinking touch screens!







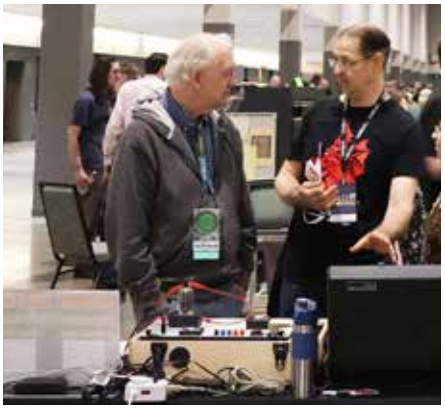




As with our old radio display, there were plenty of other vintage technology displays beyond computers and video games, such as an operating analog TV studio, large display of cell phones, test equipment, and an electron microscope. Two thirds of the hall was wired for land line telephone with an exchange centrally located with vintage wall and desk phones. Small telephone poles connecting it all rounded out the system. It is truly a celebration of the history of technology. More information at: https://vcfmw.org/ Put VCFMW 22 on your calendar for 2027, you will be glad you did!

*Two of the multiple founding members of ARCI in 1980

VCFMW 21 PHOTOS



Don Michaelson (left)



Larry Wright



Barb and Tom Zaczek



Bill Cohn and
Tom Kleinschmidt



ARCI booth



Wireline telephone exchange



Exhibit hall entrance

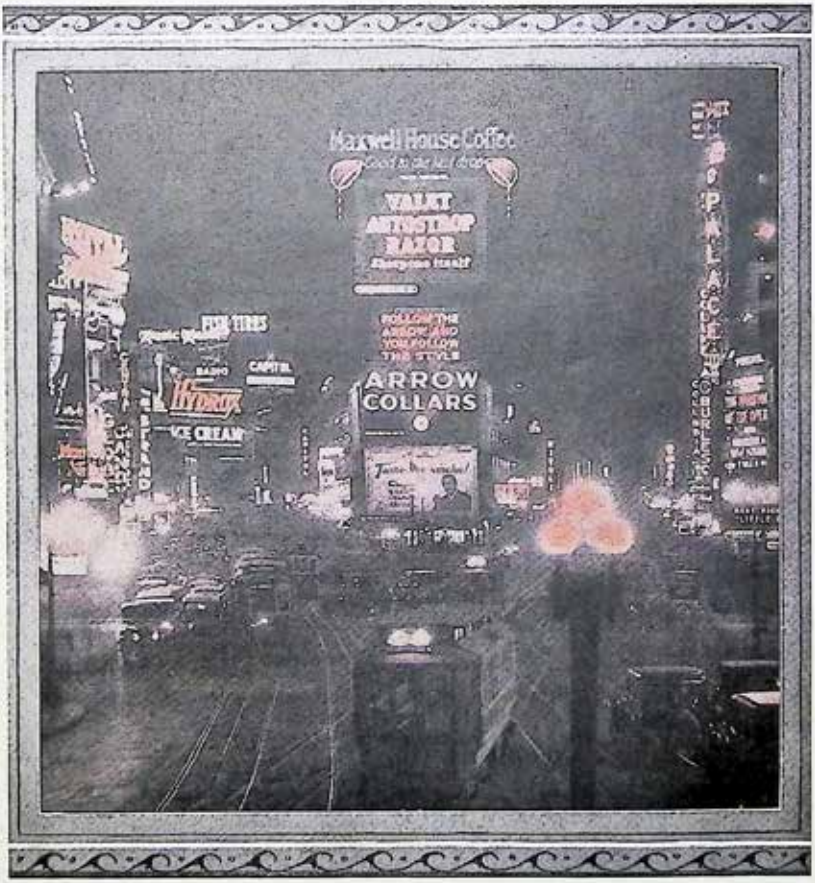


Large scale computer

CHICAGO ENGINEERING WORKS REVIEW

Student's Department

Vol. 6, No. 10 FEBRUARY, 1926 Price 10 Cents



Electricity Turns Night into Day, Times Square, New York City

SPECIAL FEATURES IN THIS ISSUE: The Smile of "Charlie" Schwab; Electricity in 1884; How to Install Bell Transformers; Have All the Big Electrical Discoveries Been Made?; 12 Other Practical Articles on Radio, Auto Electricity, Wiring and Motors.

Radio Hints and Helps

Tested and Approved by C.E.W. Engineers

C Batteries

LISTENERS are no longer content to simply fish for stations with the idea of writing down the call letters. The listener today is more critical and expects good quality of tone when he listens to a musical selection.

This tone quality is not possible with distortion. Even with the new improved loud speakers and audio frequency transformers of better design, one cannot expect to improve reproduction of music with overloaded tubes or transformers.

The C battery will prevent distortion preventing the tubes from overloading and also over-saturation of the audio frequency transformer core. Local stations are more apt to overload the set than the more distant ones.

The C battery is connected between the negative filament wire and the filament return terminal on the audio frequency transformer. That is, the positive side of the C battery is connected to the negative side of the filament and the minus side of the C battery is connected to the terminal marked F on the audio frequency transformers. The voltage of the C battery is to be used to change with the B battery voltage. For best results, the following C battery voltages should be used with specified B battery voltages.

If your B battery is 40 volts on the amplifier, the C battery should be .5 or ½ volt; when the B battery voltage is 60 volts, the C battery should be 1 volt. When using an 80 volt B battery, the C battery should be 3 volts and if you are using 90 volts, the C battery should be 4½ volts.

C batteries are particularly desirable, when the 199 or 299 type tubes are used.

Soldering Flux

Soldering paste will always remain paste; it doesn't harden and if in soldering you use too much, the excess will run and spread itself over the panel, jacks or whatever you are soldering. This paste is a fair conductor of electricity and therefore, acts as a short circuit for the radio energy.



Your set will not do its best if you use soldering paste. Resin is far better, first because it hardens after cooling and further, when it is hard it acts as a good insulator. Another point in favor of resin is the fact that it is non-corrosive which cannot be said of all soldering paste.

Grid Leak

The resistance of the grid leak will often be the factor which determines whether or not a distant station that is slightly below the point of audibility may be logged.

When dry cell tubes are used, from 2 to 3 megohms will generally be satisfactory. The 199 type of tube requires a leak of from 2 to 9 megohms, the exact value depending on the individual characteristics of the tube. The 200 type tube will work best with a grid leak from ½ to 2 megohms and the 201-A type will operate with a leak of from 2 to 9 megohms.

Regardless of what tube is being used, the best results can be obtained only by trying different leaks to ascertain which will allow the tube to work at its best efficiency. A grid leak of high value will be better for distant

stations and one of low value will be better for local stations.

A grid leak which consists of a carbon pencil mark in a bakelite covering is not sufficient nor are other grid leaks in which the value is apt to change with usage or become affected by changes of temperature.

A grid leak condenser should have a capacity of .00025 microfarad for all tubes excepting the 200 type which works best with a condenser of from .00025 to .0005 microfarad.

It is better to use a condenser having a dielectric of mica, rather than wax paper. Wax paper condensers are liable to change their capacity with change in temperature.

Making Glass Radio Panels

The job of drilling glass is a rather tricky one, but once you have mastered it, you will be able to drill holes through the panel in a very short time and with very little danger of breaking.

Auto windshield glass makes excellent material, because it is easily obtained from garages at a little or no cost. Many a broken windshield will yield a large enough piece of glass for a radio panel.

It is best to use 3 files for this work, the smallest of which has a cutting edge on the end, as shown in the accompanying figure. The second rat-tail file is just a little smaller at the point than the largest part of the first one and the third file is just a little smaller at its point than the largest part of the second one.

Work Table

A table of medium height with a smooth top makes an excellent drilling place and it should not be necessary to place pads under the glass.

The small rat-tail file is placed in the brace and is turned from left to right, instead of right to left as in ordinary drilling, so that when the handle passes your body it is from left to right. In drilling, use plenty of turpentine and instead of placing it directly in the hole in which you are drilling, apply it to a point part way up the drill so that it will be allowed to gradually feed into the hole.



Before the hole is two-thirds through, turn the panel over and finish from the other side.

Care must be taken to keep the pressure constant on the drill at all times. It is, therefore, advisable to keep your forehead against the top of the brace which will also enable you to drill the hole straight. Whenever the grinding sound ceases, it is time to resharpen the point. With a little practice you will be able to drill a hole in a piece of glass in a few minutes. During this operation, you may turn the drill quite rapidly providing a constant but small amount of pressure is applied. In reaming the hole, you must turn the drill more slowly and only the weight of the brace to feed it through.

If the hole in the panel is to be quite large, continue to ream it with the small file, often turning the panel over. Then when you have reamed it as large as you can with this file, start with the second one which is slightly larger and continue until this drill will no longer continue to enlarge the hole.

Panel Layout

Before drilling holes in the glass, make a chart of the panel on white paper and then mark the places where the holes are to be made with a sharp instrument such as a stylus.

Use of Hydrofluoric Acid

Another method is by the use of hydrofluoric acid which attacks glass. This acid is sold in wooden or wax bottles and can be obtained from any well supplied drug store. The first step is to make a mound of clay directly over the spot where you wish to make the hole and with a pencil make a small opening at the top the exact size of the hole it is desired to drill. A small quantity of the acid is then placed in the crater-like opening and allowed to stand. This acid will eat the glass and when it becomes weak, it will be necessary to add more acid, until the hole is finally eaten through.



"Here's a message from Milwaukee"

This thoughtful wife knows that the moment her husband turns in on Schlitz the reception is good. For Schlitz has a very special taste that beer-lovers are changing to with ultra high frequency. Taste Schlitz, yourself. You'll soon know why—

Schlitz tastes so good to so many people, it's first in sales in the U.S.A.

Schlitz

The Beer that made Milwaukee Famous

© 1952, JOS. SCHLITZ BREWING CO., MILWAUKEE, WIS.

October in Radio History

October 1924: Speaking at the Third National Radio Conference, Secretary of Commerce Herbert Hoover stated: “I believe that the quickest way to kill broadcasting would be to use it for direct advertising. The reader of the newspaper has an option whether he will read an ad or not, but if a speech by the President is to be used as the meat in a sandwich of two patent medicine advertisements, there will be no radio left.”

***

October 1949: James D. Shouse, Crosley Broadcasting’s president and board chairman, admonished the FCC to grant power increases to AM radio broadcasters as they face growing competition from the television stations now taking to the air. Speaking at a Boston conference, he termed the current 50 kw cap “archaic,” and stated that “even the operators of clear channel stations will find that quality operation to a diminishing audience will be economically impossible within five years.” He added that radio’s salvation does not lie “in reducing all broadcasters to the lowest common denominator.” Referring to continuing power increases for the VOA’s shortwave broadcasts to Soviet Bloc countries, Shouse observed that “Unfortunately, the powerful signal available behind the Iron Curtain is denied to many of our own people who find in the present power limit on stations a real ‘Iron Curtain,’ shutting out adequate reception.”

***

"The Giants Win the Pennant!" (1951)
The 1951 National League pennant game at New York's Polo Grounds between the Brooklyn Dodgers and the New York Giants is known for its "Shot Heard 'Round the World." It may have been the first-ever nationally televised broadcast baseball game, but it’s best known for the thrilling radio broadcast. A dramatic moment came in the final game of a three-game, winner-take-all series. The Giants were down 4-2 in the 9th inning...but that's when Bobby Thompson came up to bat with runners on second and third base.

Russ Hodges' call on WMCA of Thompson's pennant-clinching three-run homer is one of the most memorable radio moments of the 20th century. You can feel his rush of excitement as he cries "The Giants win the pennant!" four times in a row. In 2020, Hodges’s beloved call of the Thomson home run was selected by the Library of Congress to be included in the National Recording Registry.

***

JFK's Cuban Missile Crisis Broadcast (1962)
In 1962, President John F. Kennedy warned the Soviet government that they needed to remove their nuclear missiles in Cuba or risk invasion of the island by the United States. The Soviets had installed nuclear missiles in Cuba in retaliation for the American nuclear missiles the United States had in Turkey.

The Cuban Missile Crisis lasted for 13 days in October 1962. President Kennedy spoke to the nation on October 22 to inform U.S. citizens that an agreement had been reached and the Soviets would dismantle their nuclear weapons, lessening the threat of a global nuclear war. Millions of Americans listened to his speech via radio and television, and all collectively breathed one huge sigh of relief.

CLUBBING AROUND

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MID-ATLANTIC ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB (MAARC)
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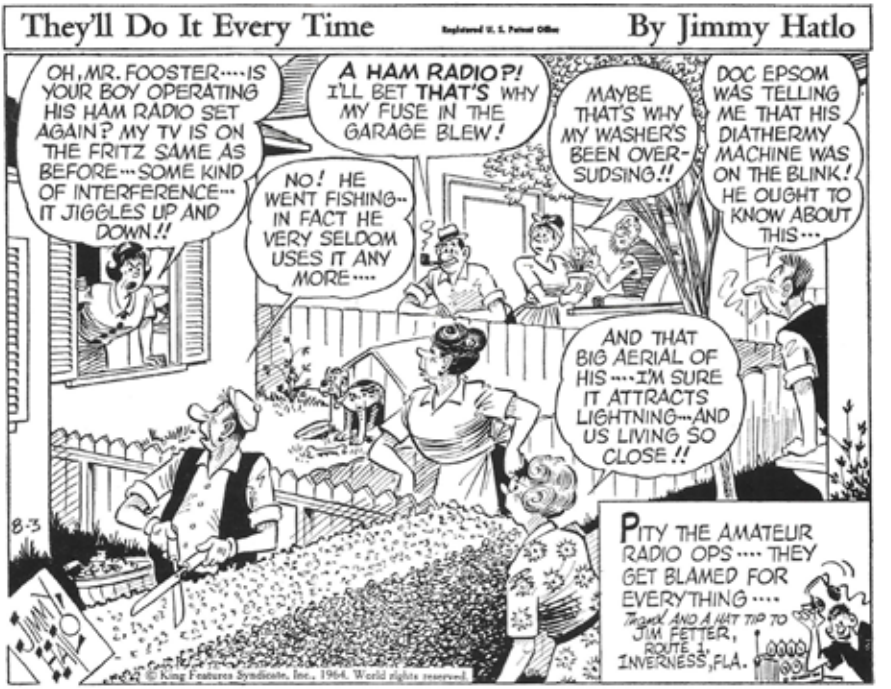
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Sep 1964 QST. The caption reads, "A tip of the ARRL hat to famed cartoonist Jimmy Hatlo for so effectively illustrating wild neighbor rumors which often plague amateurs." Hatlo died in 1963



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