Indiana Historical Radio Societi BULLETIN

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Number 1





245 N. Oakland Ave., Indianapolis, IN 46201

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Marilyn B. Johnston	Donations, Scrapbook Material 245 N. Oakland Ave., Indianapolis, IN 45201
Marilyn B. Johnston	Donations, Scrapbook Material

IHRS is a NON-PROFIT organization which was founded in 1971. Annual membership dues are \$8.00 which includes first class quarterly IHRS Bulletin. RADIOADS are free to all members.

PLEASE

Send a stamped, self-addressed envelope when requesting information.

N*O*T*I*C*E

For some of you, this will be your last issue of the BULLETIN. 1986 IHRS dues are due! Check your BULLETIN envelope to see if you need to renew. If so, send your \$8.00 check to Marilyn B. Johnston, Treasurer, Route 1, Box 218-A, Windfall, IN 46076. Membership includes four issues of the IHRS BULLETIN by First Class Mail. "For Sale" and "Wanted" RADIOADS are free. Please verify your mailing address.

DO*IT*TODAY*DO*IT*TODAY*DO*IT*TODAY

NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

The February weather co-operated beautifully Saturday, February 15th, and a very good turnout resulted. Approximately 82 people attended. Trading was brisk. There was scarcely enough room for all of the equipment. About fifty people enjoyed lunch.

The "Favorite Radio" contest was won by Frank Heathcote, first place with a beautiful clock cathedral. Bob Shuck was second with a "bottle radio". Both of these entries were in mint condition. Vice President Eric von Grimminstein took care of selecting judges and counting ballots. This type of contest allows members to display an unusual radio that many members may never see otherwise.

Diana Heathcote accepted a new teaching job before the first of the year. It entails a much heavier workload than before, and she asked to be replaced as IHRS Treasurer. However, Diana continued to take care of the financial matters for the club until her replacement could be found. This allowed a smooth transition of these responsibilities.

Marilyn Johnston has agreed to accept the responsibilities of the Treasurer. As many of you know, Marilyn has been the IHRS Secretary and the Recording Secretary of ARCA.

Jim Neuhausel has accepted the responsibility of Secretary to fill the slot vacated by Marilyn Johnston.

To all three of these members, THANK YOU. It is this willingness to accept these jobs (All of which are very low paying) which makes clubs such as ours function!

I am in the process of preparing a map of Indiana and surrounding states to locate our members. I hope to have it ready by the next meeting. This will allow us to plan our meetings to serve better the membership. Several members approached me at Indy, volunteering to host the meetings this summer. For the first time, we will have two meetings this summer. See the back cover of the BULLETIN for the calendar.

Paul Gregg



1930 Colin B. Kennedy

THE COLIN B. KENNEDY CORPORATION SOUTH BEND OPERATIONS

by Ross Smith

A GREAT NAME IN RADIO came to South Bend, Indiana, early in 1929 via Studebaker family interests. Colin B. Kennedy began producing a line of all-electric (AC line) radios in a factory located at 212 West Ewing, at the corner of Ewing and Main Streets in South Bend. After the Studebaker family acquisition, Kennedy radios were advertised as "A Studebaker Family Product".

Colin B. Kennedy remained President, R. H. Caldwell was Chief Engineer, F. H. Wellington was Chairman and Treasurer, Dr. Charles C. Lauritsen was Chief Consulting Engineer, and W. B. Nevin was Sales Manager. The SOUTH BEND TRIBUNE of June 19, 1929, under the headline "Biggest Year in Radio History Seen by Kennedy", quotes him as saying "The radio business is but in its infancy. From the standpoint of age the radio industry is just turning seven. By far the greatest number of sets produced during these years have been battery operated, and these are being replaced, as fast as the manufacturers are able to produce them, with electrically operated sets - a development of the past two years".

The N. Y. TIMES of February 11, 1929 printed the following article under the headline "South Bend Men Obtain Interest in Kennedy Firm" — "A new South Bend industry which expects, eventually, to employ 1,000 people and manufacture 1,000 radio sets a day, was announced Monday by the Studebaker Mail Order Co. interests, operating a plant known as the South Bend Watch Co. The local company, including several prominent members of the Studebaker family, has purchased a substantial interest in the business of Kennedy Radio, and the new corporation has been organized to be known as the Colin B. Kennedy Corporation. The company has leased the entire plant and grounds of the Spencer Perfume Co. covering eight acres, and will begin operations at once".

Kennedy enjoyed only a few months of prosperity, producing high-priced, fine-furniture consoles, which included models with record players. Top-line models were priced in the \$500 range, the cost of a Ford automobile at the time. They were high-quality, good-performing sets, truly "The Royalty of Radio". Export business was good for a while, including large shipments of consoles to Russia.

As the Depression set in, the company was over-stocked with high-priced consoles due to over-production and was slow to follow the trend to low-priced table model or mantel-type sets. The "Coronet" Model 42 was the first "midget" set, introduced in late 1930 and carrying a price tag of \$69.95. The six-tube TRF set was billed to be as sensitive and selective as the high-priced consoles and included a tone control. The set measured 16½" wide and 17" high and weighed 31 pounds, not quite a "midget" by later standards. The circuit design was practically the same as the Model 20 console, except for a single power-output tube. To save an audio transformer, later models were changed to a resistance-coupled audio stage.

A line of automobile sets were introduced in 1931, which apparently were not well received by the buying public.

The most popular models built in South Bend were:

MODEL NUMBER	ТҮРЕ	TUBE LINE—UP
*Royal 60	7-tube AC console	Three 226 RF, 227 det., 226 AF, 171A output & 280 rectifier
*Royal 80	9-tube AC console	Four 226 RF, 227 det., 226 AF, two 171A output & 280 rectifier
10	8-tube AC console	Three 227 RF, 227 det., 227 AF, two 245 output & 280 rectifier.
20 & 20B	8-tube AC console	Three 224 RF, 227 det., 227 AF, two 245 output & 280 rectifier.
22	7-tube DC console (DC version of 20B)	Three 222 RF, 112A det., 112A AF and two 171A output.
26	8-tube AC console	Same as model 20. Uses type 415 line voltage regulator.
30	8-tube AC console	Same as model 20
32	8-tube AC console	Phonograph version of model 30.
34SW	3-tube AC short wave adaptor for model 30	224 untuned RF, 224 regen. det. and 224 AF.
36	7-tube DC console (DC version of model 26)	Same as model 22.

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38	7-tube DC console (DC version of model 30)	Same as model 22.
40	7-tube DC console (DC version of model 32	Phonograph version of model 38
Coronet 42	6-tube AC table	Three 224 RF, 224 det., 245 output & 280 rectifier.
Coronet 42	6-tube AC table (Later model)	Two 224 RF, 224 det., 227 AF, 245 output & 280 rectifier.
50	5-tube AC table	Two 551 RF, 224 det., 247 output & 280 rectifier.
52	7-tube AC Superhet	551 RF, 224 mixer, 227 osc., 551 IF, 227 Det., 247 output & 280 rectifier.
54SW	2-tube Short Wave Converter	224 mixer and 227 osc. Has band-switch covering four SW bands.
826B	11-tube AC console models 26 & 34 SW combined	Same as model 20 and 34SW. Uses type 449 line voltage regulator.

*Models 60 and 80 could have been manufactured in the Highland, Illinois, plant before the move to South Bend.

The first showing of the "1930" models was at the 1929 Spring Chicago Radio Show. New models were officially introduced to the public on July 28, 1929, at a new Kennedy retail store in South Bend, located at 117 North Main Street. As with many of the high quality radios of the early 1930's, price won over quality or luxury, and "The Royalty of Radio" simply could not compete with the lower-priced cathedral and table model radios made by Philco, Crosley, Emerson, RCA, General Electric, and others in the price range of \$19.95 to \$29.95. Even Atwater Kent introduced small table sets as low as \$22.50.

Raleigh Dickerhoff, a draftsman for Kennedy, was one of the last four men to leave the plant. The South Bend Watch Company, an affiliated company, was in similar circumstances of having diminished sales and no profits. The management of Kennedy and South Bend Watch were combined and moved to the Kennedy plant, creating a top-heavy organization. This, according to Mr. Dickerhoff, hastened the time of the final bankruptcy proceedings. The last listing for the company in the South Bend City Directory was in 1933. The company address at 212 W. Ewing was not listed in the 1934 directory, indicating its closing in 1933 or early 1934. The 1934 directory lists 1022 E. Oakside as the home of Colin B., Mary L., and Colin G. Kennedy. Colin G. was apparently a son. The 1935 directory no longer listed the home.

Colin B. Kennedy died in Chicago on June 16, 1942. At the time of his death, Mr. Kennedy was in war service as an OPM engineer assigned as Civilian Advisor to the Army Signal Corps. The following eulogy was give by his friend, Commander E. F. McDonald, Jr., of the Zenith Radio Corporation:

"The death of Colin Kennedy marks the passing of another of radio's original pioneering spirits. When, back in 1921, I became associated with Chicago Radio Laboratory, which two years later became Zenith Radio Corporation, to me the two

great names in radio were Grebe and Kennedy, both of whom now have passed on.

"Colin Kennedy, back in those days, headed the radio company bearing his name, with St. Louis as its headquarters. He was a pioneer radio engineer, a quiet, modest man, who sought no glory but contributed much to the early days of radio. He was one of the first holders of a license to manufacture home radio under Armstrong patents. When he died, Mr. Kennedy was doing his stint for his country in the Army Signal Corps."

References and Notes:

- 1. "The Colin B. Kennedy Co." by Alan S. Douglas, ARCA. Vol. 10 No. 2 pp. 1-5.
- 2. "Colin B. Kennedy Coronet Model 42" by Frank Heathcote, IHRS. Vol. 8 No. 2 pp. 5, 6, & 7.
- 3. "A Reverse Time Adventure" by Serge Krauss, ARCA Vol. 10 No. 2 p. 13.
- 4. SOUTH BEND TRIBUNE June 19, 1929 and July 26, 1929. NEW YORK TIMES Feb. 11, 1929.
- 5. I am indebted to Mr. Raleigh Dickerhoff, draftsman for Kennedy from 1929 to 1933, and Mr. Smith Frye, Elkhart, Indiana, distributor for Kennedy radios and Hupmobile automobiles, for their contributions to this article.

Editor's Note:

The above article previously appeared in ANTIQUE RADIO GAZETTE, Volume 13, Number 1 (Spring, 1985) and is published here under an exchange agreement. We reprint it because of its contribution to Indiana radio history.

ALAN DOUGLAS FINDS ANOTHER ONE!

The Talking Book would make a nice addition to the crystal set collection. The ad is taken from RADIO RETAILING, January, 1927. All submitted by Alan Douglas.





A Novel and Efficient Radio

A wonderful radio detector set, complete with aerial and ground leads, antenna and pair of standard ear phones, self-contained in attractive leather-bound book. Set is finely constructed with soldered connections and is equipped with the new

Celerundum Rectifying Unit

Better Reception. Greater Distance.
No Butteries Required.
The Talking Book is the best selling crystal detector set on the market.
LIST—2.50

With Phone, \$6.00.

Draters—Jobbers—Write for discounts
THE LISTEN IN CO.

115 Federal St., Boston

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INDIANA HISTORICAL RADIO SOCIETY and ANTIQUE WIRELESS ASSOCIATION

Saturday, April 19, 1986 at the Auburn-Cord-Dusenberg Museum in Auburn, Indiana

FRIDAY, APRIL 18:

4:00 PM — Early registration at the museum

7:00 PM — "Old Tyme Movie" and an AWA show, "The British Collector"

SATURDAY, APRIL 19:

9:00 AM — Registration at the museum

Swap meet in the north parking lot. Vendors must register. John

Foell, Chairman

9:30 AM - Register items for the Old Equipment Contest, 10:00 AM

deadline.

10:00 AM — Register items for the afternoon auction. All items must be registered by noon. You are invited to bring donated items for

the IHRS museum fund, as well as personal sales. Please, no TV chassis, scrap sets, or parts of no value. Also, limit the number of manuals and magazines. IHRS is not responsible for condi-

tion of materials or transactions.

10:30 AM — Contest judging. Best of Show receives the Grebe Trophy.

12:00 N — Lunch at the museum "Filling Station"

1:00 PM — Auction of personal and donated items. A 10% donation to the IHRS museum fund is expected on personal items. Steve

Waldron, Auctioneer. Glen Rogers, Chairman

4:00 PM — Continuation of the swap meet

6:00 PM — Social hour in the museum mezzanine banquet room

7:00 PM — Banquet and contest awards. Entertainment by Bob Sievers,

famous WOWO radio personality

Prepayment for the banquet must be received before April 15, 1986. Tickets are \$12.50 each. Make checks for banquet only (Do not include registration fee) payable to IHRS and mail to Marilyn B. Johnston, RR #1, Box 218-A, Windfall, IN 46076. Please make your own motel reservations at either the L & K Motel (1-800-848-5767) or at the Starlite Motel (219-925-0500). Both are on State Road 8 West, Auburn, IN 46706.

Registration fee is \$3.50 at the door (includes museum admission from 4:00 PM Friday and all day Saturday).

AWA, IHRS members and their guests are most welcome!

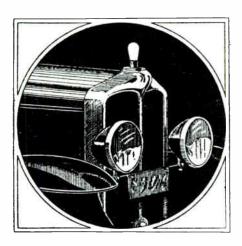
Ross Smith, General Chairman

OLD EQUIPMENT CO

Alternate Judge

CATEGORIES

- 1. Crystal radios (any year)
 - A. Factory manufactured
 - B. Homebrew
- 2. Novelty, Art Deco, and mirror radios before 1941
- 3. Battery radios before 1930
 - A. Regenerative
 - B. TRF or Neutrodyne
 - C. Superheterodyne
 - D. Homebrew, any type
- 4. Cathedral and mantel tube-type radios
- 5. Atwater Kent receivers before 1930
- 6. Grebe receivers
- 7. All types of speakers before 1930



A RADIATOR ORNAMENT

HOSPITALITY ROOM AT AUBURN

Before and after the Friday evening program, April 18, there will be a hospitality room at the Starlite Motel on SR 8W, Auburn.



HERE'S THE "LOWDOWN"

PAUL S. GREGG

Many of our IHRS members enjoy listening to, as well as collecting, the older equipment. For several years I have been a member of The Long Wave Club of America, which is a group dedicated to the spectrum below the regular broadcast band; that is, from about 550 khz to 10 khz. Many of the early receivers will tune into these frequencies. The TRI—CITY one-tube set I have will tune down to about 400 khz. Many of the WW2 Navy receivers, such as the RBM and RBL, will go much lower. My RBL-3 will actually receive below 10 khz. Although it was made in 1943, it still does a good job. There are many others available at flea market sales.

The club publishes a monthly bulletin called THE LOWDOWN. It covers stations heard, technical articles, want ads, etc., much as the IHRS BULLETIN does, but is directed toward the "LOWFERS". Anyone interested may write Longwave Club of America, 45 Wildflower Road, Levittown, PA 19057. I will bring a copy of THE LOWDOWN to the next meeting if anyone would like to see one.

Ed Dupart picked up a booklet on the 1929 Atwater Kents. Here is some information on the well known Model 55.



Model 55 AC Receiver

FOR USE WITH 110-120 VOLT 60 CYCLE AC CURRENT

Panel Model 55C. Part No. 14800. Dimensions: Length, 20¾ in.; Depth, 10¼ in.; Height, 6¾ in. Complete with 10½ feet of Flexible Attachment Cord and Two-piece Attachment Plug, but without Tubes, \$84.

Table Model 55. Part No. 14900. Dimensions: Length, 21½ in.; Depth, 10¾ in.; Height, 7¾ in. Complete with 10½ feet of Flexible Attachment Cord and Two-piece Attachment Plug, but without Tubes, \$88.

· FOR USE WITH 110-120 VOLT 25 CYCLE AC CURRENT

Panel Model 55FC. Part No. 15700. Dimensions: Length, 20¾ in.; Depth, 10¼ in.; Height, 6¾ in. Complete with 10½ feet of Flexible Attachment Cord and Two-piece Attachment Plug, but without Tubes, \$84.

Table Model 55F. Part No. 15600. Dimensions: Length, 21¼ in.; Depth, 10¾ in.; Height, 7¾ in. Complete with 10½ feet of Flexible Attachment Cord and Two-piece Attachment Plug, but without Tubes, \$88.





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RADIOADS

WANTED: RME9 or RME9D. Trade or cash. Don K. Johnston, R. 1, Box 218-A, Windfall, IN 46076. (317) 945-7735.

WANTED: Speaker for Model 60 and 505 Philco Cathedral, two 10-inch speakers for Majestic 300 floor model radio plus tuning dial bezel for same. Also would like to buy a chairside radio, any brand. John Stefanski, 729 North Broad Street, Griffith, IN 46319. 924-6667.

FOR SALE: THE reference books for all collectors and historians: (1) VINTAGE RADIOS; (2) A FLICK OF THE SWITCH; (3) RADIO COLLECTOR'S GUIDE. \$10.95 each postpaid. Vintage Radio, Box 1331, North Highlands, CA 95660.

NEW ITEMS FOR SALE: Upright or chassis mount power transformers for 2.5V sets. \$32.50 for the 50ma. and \$39.00 for the 90ma. 1921 Duck catalog, 256 pages, \$18.75. 1928 RASCO catalog, 144 pages, \$8.75. These are excellent reprints. And now, something different - replica "Read RADIO NEWS" cast-iron paperweights that look like 0-to-100 tuning knobs. Almost six inches in diameter. Circa 1925? You don't see many of these. Every display needs at least one. \$14.95. You can get this good stuff either from me or my good friends at Antique Electronic Supply Company in Arizona. Peter Yanczer, 835 Bricken Pl., St. Louis, MO (314) 822-1748. Please include postage with your order.

BUYING: Whole radio/tv collections and estates. Contact in confidence Jim Clark, 1006 Pendleton Drive, Lansing, M1 48917. (517) 323-9595.

WANTED: (1) AK Breadboard Parts: Type 11 tuner, RF transformers Stage #1 and #2, tube sockets, TA units, etc. (2) Original clock for Majestic grandfather clock radio. (3) Junker RCA 73 tombstone. (4) Pair of Hedge Hog audios. Bob Nicholson, 3423 Long Street, Topeka, KS 66605. (913) 266-9473.

WANTED: Beginning radio collector desires his first cathedral radio, preferably an Atwater Kent or Philco, in \$50-\$75 range; does not have to work. Contact Steve McShane, 453 Chestnut, Valparaiso, IN 46383. All advice and offers will be appreciated.

FOR SALE: Reprints: 98-page AK Service Manual covers breadboards to Model 52, \$11.95; 64-page AK Radio Parts List covers Models 9 to 67, \$10.95. Both books cover horns and speakers. Vintage TV and Radio, 1204 Andrews Avenue, Lakewood, OH 44107.

WANTED: Zenith radios from the mid-thirties (wooden cabinets, circular dials and no push buttons). I will buy or trade other Zeniths and some battery sets. Arie Breed, 510 Lake Drive, Ottumwa, 1A 52501. (515) 682-6925.

FOR SALE: Console radio. RCA Radiola 30 Super-Heterodyne. Cane door on back. Best offer. (317) 786-0045.

RADIOADS

ANTIQUE RADIO CLASSIFIED - the national publication for buyers and sellers of old radios and related items. Published monthly and features articles, regular columns, photos, and many ads. Sample copy is \$1.50 or for information contact ARC, 9511-23 Sunrise Blvd., Cleveland, OH 44133.

ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB OF ILLINOIS announces Radiofest '86. August 8 and 9 at the new Holiday Inn Holidome and Convention Center, 345 River Road, Elgin, 1L 60120. Special features this year include a tour of Ralph Muchow's museum, two-day flea market, two auctions, contest with Best-of-Show, a special display of early television sets, and a banquet with guest speaker. For more information write Joe Willis, P. O. Box 14732, Chicago, 1L 60614.

STRONG BUYER. Cash for radios and parts. Want all colors and styles by Motorola, Fada, Bendix, Dewald, Emerson, Gerod, Sentinel, Addison, and Knight. Must be Bakelite. Also wanted are pink, blue, and green-mirrored Spartons. Deco and mirrored glass and Coca Cola cooler radios. Mark Honea, 13201 NW 81st Street, Parkville, MO 64152. (816) 891-2441.

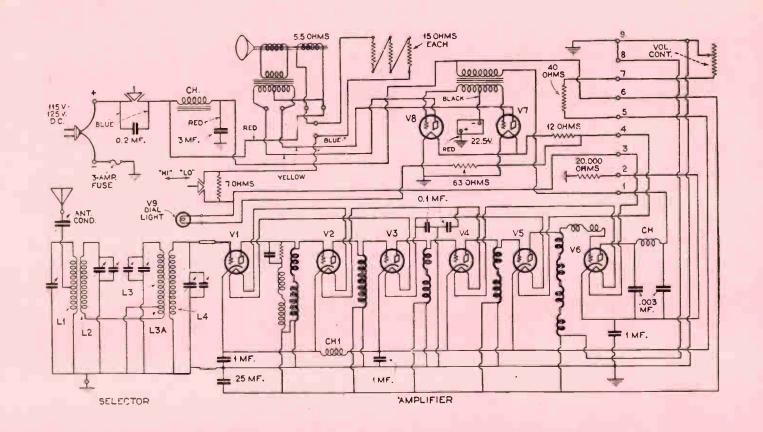
AUBURN AUCTION ITEMS. Rider Mnuals, Volumes 2 through 15 with complete index. Crosley X complete in parts. Freshman Masterpiece horn speaker. Stromberg-Carlson Neutrodyne, Crosley Trirdyne, Radiola III with WD-11 tubes, Atwater Kent Model 20, Orthome Model VI connected to modern radio. Magnavox M3 fiber horn speaker (rare) and Magnavox R3 horn speaker. Two Signal Corps buzz boxes (1914). Jewett horn speaker. Sterling tube tester number R-401. Rare radio advertising - Atwater Kent Radio and Columbia Dry Batteries. Miscellaneous speakers. For further information, contact Del Barrett, 1517 Pacific Drive, Fort Wayne, IN 46819.

FOR SALE: One tube radio kit, complete with breadboard, tube, and other parts. Batteries and headphones are optional. Price \$16.95 plus \$3.00 for shipping and handling. George Fathauer, Antique Electronic Supply, 688 West First Street, Tempe, AZ 85281. (602) 894-9503.

ANTIQUE ELECTRONIC SUPPLY 1986 Catalog is twenty pages in length and features capacitors, transformers, batteries, power supplies, tools, novelties, books, chemicals, wire, speakers, cassette tapes, reproduction parts, and more, for antique radio hobbyists. Write to Antique Electronic Supply, 688 West First Street, Tempe, AZ 85281 or call (602) 894-9503.

WANTED: National preselector for the FB-7 receiver. National power supplies and receivers. 7.5v, 4a filament transformer. WW2 military surplus radio equipment. Paul S. Gregg W9POC, 725 College Way, Carmel, IN 46032.

WANTED: 12 in. speaker for Zenith Model 125268 console radio; blank 15 in. by 7 in. sheet of bakelite for front panel of homebrew. George B. Clemans, 851 West Wooster St., Bowling Green, OH 43402. (419) 352-7198.



SPARTON "EQUASONNE" MODELS 931 AND 301 D.C.

THE LOG OF THE IHRS

Friday and Saturday, April 18 and 19: IHRS and AWA Regional Spring Meet. ACD Museum, Auburn, IN. Details inside.

Saturday, May 31: IHRS Logansport Meeting. Pavillion at Riverside Park. A map of Logansport is included in the BULLETIN. The time is 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Once again, Frank and Diane Heathcote are our hosts. We shall have a carry-in dinner as usual. Join us in the park for a flea market, swap session, and information exchange. After lunch there will be a brief business meeting. Then comes the popular vote contest. Judges will be all those present, members and non-members alike, who will determine the best entry in the following two categories:

Category 1: Pre-1950 Clock Radios

Category 2: Pre-1950 Radios from RCA and related companies - G.E., Westinghouse, and Graybar

The Heathcotes have extended an invitation to interested folk to visit their home and see a couple of cathedral radios. So, bring along a dish, a junker for the flea market, and an eye-catching contest entry.

Saturday, August 2: IHRS Windfall Meeting. Don and Marilyn Johnston will be hosting this one. Details and map will be in the next BULLETIN. You read it right; there will be TWO summer meets this year. Which means twice as much fun.

Saturday, September 13: IHRS Valpo Meeting. Mr. and Mrs. Art Hershman are our hosts at Valparaiso Technical Institute. Details later on in the year, but we want you to get the date on your calendars now.

MAN-MADE S-T-A-T-I-C

