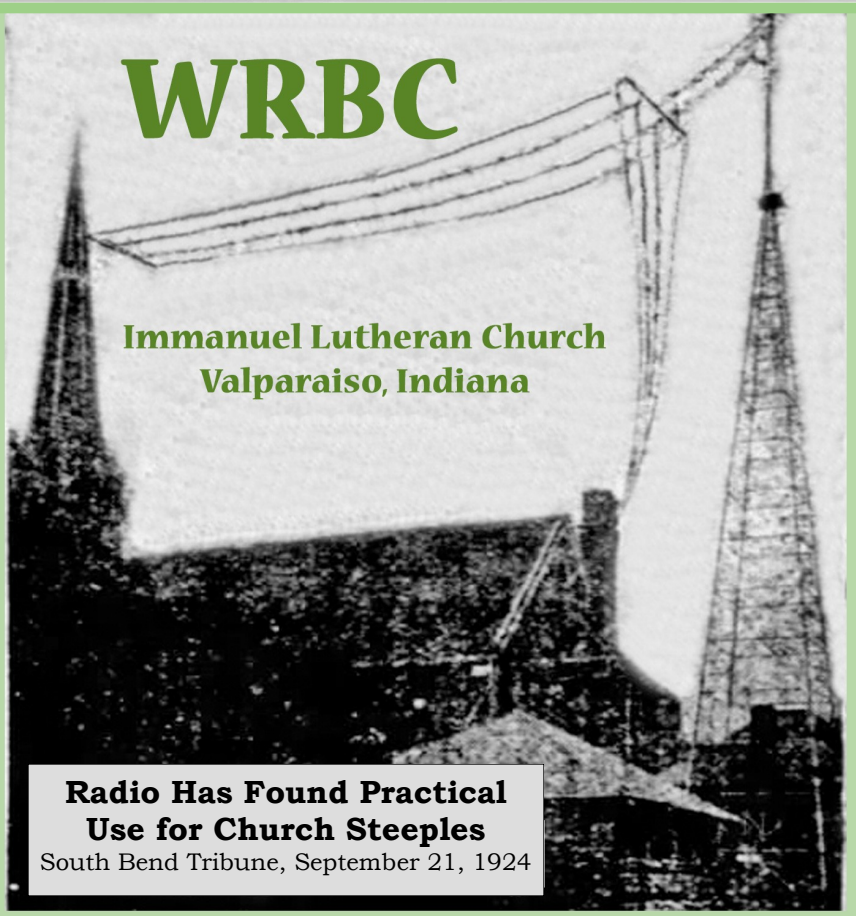
The Indiana Historical Radio Society BULLETIN

Volume 48 Fall 2019 Number 3

WRBC



Immanuel Lutheran Church
Valparaiso, Indiana

Radio Has Found Practical Use for Church Steeples
South Bend Tribune, September 21, 1924

The BULLETIN
A PUBLICATON OF THE INDIANA HISTORICAL RADIO SOCIETY.
CELEBRATING FORTY-EIGHT YEARS OF DOCUMENTING EARLY RADIO

The Indiana Historical Radio Society Bulletin
Fall 2019

In this issue:

WRBC—Valparaiso Indiana—1924 to 1930

By Fred Prohl

Radio Has Found Practical Use for Church Steeples

Conservative Lutheran Church Establishes Its First Broadcasting Station

"At last a use has been found for a church steeple—to hold up one end of a radio antenna. What is believed to be the first instance of this is shown in the picture on this page (*cover*) and, strangely enough, it is the conservative Lutheran Church which has set the pace. Of course, there are many churches broadcasting now, but the Lutherans of Valparaiso, Ind. are the first to break precedence in that denomination and install a broadcasting plant licensed as a Class A Station on 278 meters, with the call letters WRBC, and the slogan, which incorporates the call letters. "World Redeemed by Christ." It is a 500-watt station with a summer range of about 500 miles, but in winter it should easily be heard in the East. One of the reasons why the church went into broadcasting is that while Valparaiso is a "city of churches", "the word empty" belongs before 'churches' in the designation and the Lutherans decided to go after the Sunday radio listeners—in the bigger congregation of the countryside.

The tower supporting one end of the antenna is 95 feet high and the antenna length is 90 feet. A counterpoise is used. It is operated by a 2,500 volt generator, with two amplifying tubes and four 250-watt tubes, two for modulation and two for oscillation.

The station has been operated for experiment and testing the latter part of the summer, but the formal dedication will be held this fall."
(*The South Bend Tribune, September 21, 1924)*

Dr. George Schutes, pastor of the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Valparaiso, was the driving force behind the installation of a radio broadcast station at the church. The 500 watt station, expensive at $14,000, was considered a state of the art installation. "It is the first church in Indiana to attempt the installation of so elaborate broadcasting station. It is the first Lutheran Church in the world to install a station of this kind. The only other church in the United States that has a sending station of

The Department of Commerce reported, June 30, 1924, that within the 540 Broadcast Stations in the United States there were 34 stations identified as church owned.

Valparaiso, Ind, May 19—The local broadcasting station of Immanuel Lutheran Church has received notification that the call letters assigned are WRBC. The original letters were WDBL but were changed to above to form the initial letters in a slogan that would express the prime purpose of the station's broadcasts. The letters standing for "World Redeemed By Christ."

the kind is the Art Street Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia."

Station WRBC was dedicated March 1, 1925 with 600 members of the Valparaiso community attending the service at the Immanuel Lutheran Church. During the dedication service messages were broadcast in six different languages. The mayor of Valparaiso was in attendance along with the local chamber of commerce.

The rise to prominence was rapid for the new station. A Variety of programming was presented by the station: *November 1, 1924, The Tipton Daily "*Valparaiso music lovers were carried away last evening when they tuned in on WRBC, the broadcasting station of Immanuel Lutheran church at Valparaiso, where a remarkable program was broadcast. One could easily have thought he (Paul Richman, student at Valparaiso) was in the confines of one of the theatres of our neighboring metropolis.

October 2, 1926, The Dayton News "The Immanuel Lutheran Church of Valparaiso, Ind., will have a display at the Chicago radio show which opens Oct. 11. This church is the home of the famous WRBC station and will have an exact duplicate of the church and their station for exhibit to the million persons expected to see the radio exposition." *December 25, 1924, South Bend*

"Dr. George Schutes, pastor of the Immanuel Lutheran Church, Valparaiso, Ind., standing beside the pulpit microphone."
Indianapolis Star, June 15, 1924

Donald Shoen, Radio Expert, Loses Life In Plane Crash.
Young Schoen was the operator for WRBC, Valparaiso radio broadcasting station. Schoen previously attended Dodges Telegraph School.
The Vidette Messenger, September 15, 1927,

Tribune "A radio wedding will take place in this city (Valparaiso) Christmas Day . . . . Will be broadcast from Station WRBC, of Immanuel Lutheran Church."
October 25, 1927, Vidette Messenger—"Musical Treat Over WRBC." "Jack Doll and his musical gang from Hammond, heard for the first time over WRBC, proved very popular to the radio audience last evening."

Congressional legislation in 1912 was an early attempt to regulate radio. The legislation established ship to shore "wireless" as having priority over all other stations. The responsibility for licensing of radio was set up under control of the Department of Commerce. Not seeing the rapid growth in radio broadcast that was to occur, the Department of Commerce authorized two broadcast frequencies for radio stations. 485 meters (619 kHz), designated for entertainment , and 360 meters (833 kHz), under the control of the Agriculture Department, for markets and weather reports. Fifteen years later, 1927, Congress recognized the need to radically change the 1912 regulation and licensing of radio and created the independent Federal Radio Commission (FRC). The FRC was given the authority, subject to Congressional oversight, to grant or deny broadcasting licenses, assign frequencies, assign power levels, and hours of operation for each station. The nature of a station, news, agriculture, music and entertainment, religious, public service, and so on became a debate as well decision criteria for licensing. (In 1934 the FRC was replaced by the FCC.)

The 1927 Act and the decisions by the FRC did not favor WRBC. The Federal Radio Commission directed 94% of the 600 or so stations to change either frequency, power, or time of operation—or all three. WRBC was directed to change all three; frequency to 1240khz, power to 50 watts, and daytime hours for operation. The operating hours for WRBC had been Sunday mornings for church services and night time hours for local programming. "With the loss of transmitting power and night time transmission the station will no longer serve its larger audience, the farming community. " In order to make the required equipment change was $1500. This expense added to the already expensive operating costs became a

problem for WRBC. The newspapers report local business and State legislators appealed to the FRC to reconsider the decision. Some success was reached with an extension: *January 10, 1929, Vidette Messenger*, "Station WRBC gets extension of time on its modification of wave length hearing."

Dr. Schules, Pastor of Immanuel Church and primary influence behind station WRBC, was reported to make trips to Washington to appeal the FRC decision. By the

CHURCH TURNS OVER STATION TO ITS PASTOR

WRBC Broadcast Apparatus is Now Property of Rev. Geo. Schutes Who Plans Its Continuance.

January 30, 1929, Vidette Messenger

end of 1928 the Immanuel Lutheran Church congregation decided that with the cost of updating WRBC to the FRC's new wavelength as well as the continuing expense of maintaining the station was more than the congregation should undertake.

"At a meeting of the congregation of Immanuel Lutheran church, owners of the station, last night at the church hall, ownership of the station and all apparatus passed to Rev. George Schutes, pastor of the church."

Evidently Pastor Schutes did not see a solution for a continued operation with WRBC's current frequency and power. Dr. Schutes opted to try a different approach by requesting to operate WRBC as a clear channel station

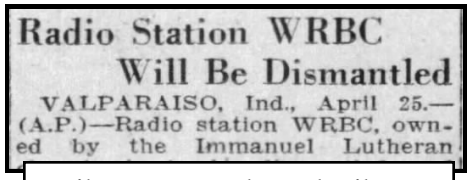
March 26, 1929, South Bend Tribune "Valparaiso station, WRBC, became a topic of congressional debate over the use of clear channel radio use in the United States. The Chairman of the Federal Radio Commission, Chairman Robinson, and the Senate majority floor leader, Jim Watson, were in agreement that clear channel radio transmission can operate simultaneously on the opposite sides of the country. Chairman Robinson's position of simultaneous broadcasting favored a request of the Indiana station WRBC. "Rev. George F. Schutes, pastor of the church, explained that his station has not been operating since the reallocation when it was placed on daylight operation only with 50 watts of power, because the pur-

pose of the station had been 'defeated' by its inferior assignment." Dr. Schutes' plan was to erect a 5,000 watt transmitter and use the 840 kilocycle channel assigned as a cleared channel to KFI Los Angeles . KFI, according to Dr. Schutes, cannot be tuned with in the Chicago area before 11 o'clock at night, at which time he proposes to sign off his station." A decision was not to be reached until additional tests are met and the five member Federal Radio Commission meets.

The article continued by citing Chairman Robinson's theory that two of more station of 5,000 watts or more on opposite sides of the country can operate on a single channel without creating heterodyne interference or 'whistling' to the extent that reception will be marred." "High grade crystal control apparatus will be used by these stations so as to assure constant operation on their assigned frequency. It is the wobbling of the signals on the channels that causes the distortion of reception."

In addition to Dr. Schutes efforts to continue WRBC, area support was also given: Here's One Little Idea *Vidette Messenger, January 19, 1929*. "The WRBC radio station could be made of immense value to Valparaiso, to advertise the city and its advantages and especially useful to Valparaiso University in many ways." "A radio station is like a faithful friend, hard to get and too valuable to lose."

"Radio station WRBC, owned by the Immanuel Lutheran church, is to be dismantled and abandoned and on its site a new $30,000 church hall will be erected. The station has done no broadcasting since it was assigned a new wave length a year ago."


Radio Station WRBC
Will Be Dismantled
VALPARAISO, Ind., April 25.—(A.P.)—Radio station WRBC, owned by the Immanuel Lutheran

April 26, 1930, South Bend Tribune

Fred Prohl, July 2019.
Thank you Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Gutt for your assistance with Immanuel Lutheran Church, Valparaiso, history.
Quoted newspapers, 1922 -1924 were accessed through newspapers.com.

Immanuel Lutheran Church in Valparaiso experienced a serious sanctuary fire in 1975. As a result the congregation decided to divide, with one group building a new church, keeping the name Immanuel, and the second group to restore the sanctuary and name the restored church, Heritage Lutheran.

CARS/IHRS Vintage Radio Swap Meet
Saturday, October 5, 2019

NOTE THE DATE CHANGE -THE RICHMOND VINTAGE RADIO MEET IS OCTOBER 5, 2019

Presented in partnership by the Cincinnati Antique Radio Society and the Indiana Historical Radio Society. We will meet at Richmond's Springwood Park Pavilion, 65 Waterfall Road.

There will be setup space indoors and in the parking lot.
The fee is $10.00 per space for Swap N Sell setup, entrance fee is free.
There will be free Danishes, soda, orange juice and coffee offered at the start of the meet.

Schedule of activities:

9:00 AM...Building open for set up. There will be only about 20 large tables available for indoor setup so it will be first come, first serve as far as securing indoor setup tables. Plenty of room for extra tables if you bring your own.

9:00 AM to 10:00 AM...Register for the Meet and Auction. Auction setup.

9:30 AM...Popular Vote Contest set-up. Popular Vote Categories:

A. Ohio Made and/or Brand Radio
B. Indiana Made and/or Brand Radio

10:00 AM to 12 Noon...Vintage Radio Evaluation. Bring a radio for a condition and value estimate.

12:30 PM...Popular Vote Results Announced

1:00 PM...Donation and consignment auction of vintage radio and radio related equipment.

The Auctions: All auction buyers will be issued a bid number at meet registration.

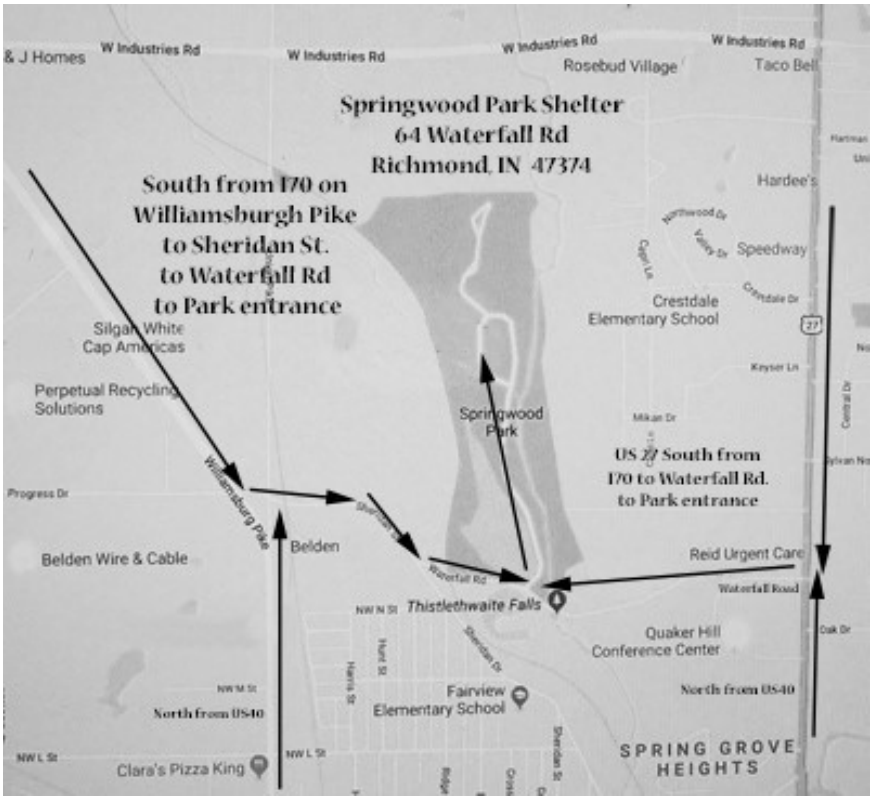
Donation - Donated radios will benefit both the IHRS and CARS equally. Important! Donated equipment not sold will be removed by the owner of the equipment. The sale dollars will be collected immediately following the donation auction.

Consignment Auction - Owners of radios in the consignment auction will register the item(s) to be sold. When sold to the highest bidder, the money will be collected by the IHRS Treasurer. 10% of the sale will benefit both the IHRS and CARS equally, the dollar amount of the sale, minus 10%, will be sent the seller within two weeks by way of an Indiana Historical Radio Society check.

The meet will be open to all kinds of vacuum tube electronics and pre 1980 solid state electronics. This includes antique radios, vintage stereo and Hi-Fi equipment, phonographs, TVs and accessories, test equipment, literature, electronic parts, etc. Windup phonographs and Victrolas are also welcome.

This meet will be an excellent venue to wind down the year for buying and selling vintage electronics so bring what you can. Hopefully we'll have a beautiful fall day for the meet.

To view online photos of the Springwood park and pavilion, go to: https://www.flickr.com/photos/56413709@N02/albums/72157709346291417



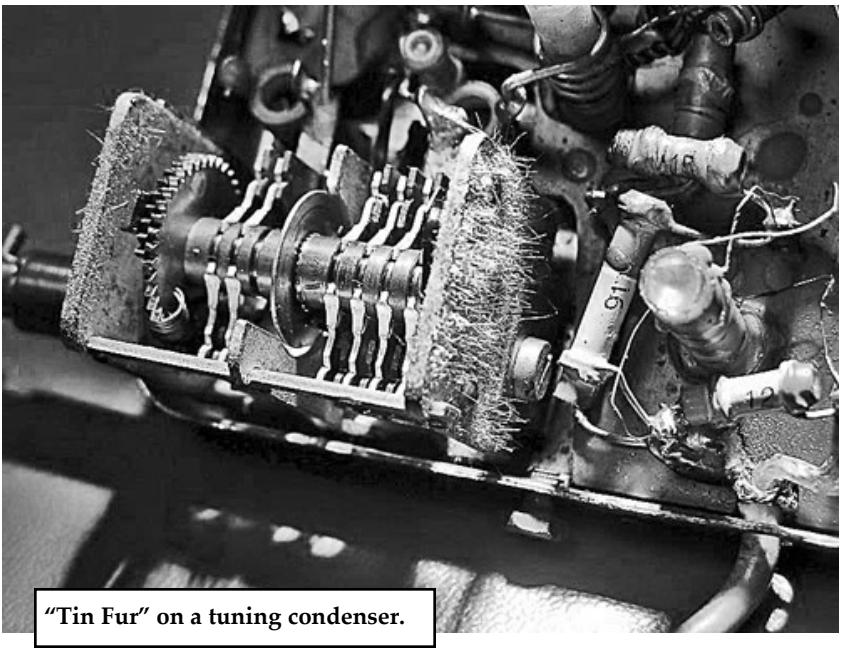
Comments on Steve Ewbank's "Fixing my Channel Master 6506" and Ed Dupart's "Silver Migration" articles, Summer 2019 Bulletin. by John Foell

Channel Master 6506:

Steve Ewbank's article on the Channel Master transistor set. My guess is someone broke that wire to the ferrite loopstick antenna while changing batteries and the kludged-in wire was put in by some ham-handed repairman (resulting in bias for the converter but essentially no coupling from the antenna circuit) who got it working enough to keep the customer happy. Cutting the wire would have killed the set completely. My further guess is once the wire was broken the remainder was cut off because it was "in the way" after the "repair". He (Steve) is correct about radios being almost a "throw-away" item in the mid to late 1960s and on, but prior to about 1963 they were pretty expensive. A Zenith Royal 500 was between 60 and 75 dollars plus accessories and that was beyond the reach of the vast majority of people. Japanese competition pretty much killed the US radio manufacturers – especially at the lower end of the market. I tend to avoid Japanese sets or at least check them for bad tuning condensers as they used a polyethylene dielectric which can deteriorate over time and flake off and cause shorts – thus killing the set. A buddy of mine actually rebuilt one of these but it took him a full week and he said he would never do it again. Some sets appear to use a Mylar dielectric and those hold up better. A lot of it depends on how the radio was stored and used (hot attics very bad, as is excessive ultra -violet light from the sun). The USA built sets generally used a miniaturized air dielectric tuning condenser and these hold up very well. I have some of the Japanese sets in my "pile" but have tried to make sure they tune the entire range before buying them. If somewhere in the range the set goes dead (especially in the middle), there might be a problem with the tuning condenser – sometimes it can be seen through a clear case with a decent (5-10X) jewelers loupe.

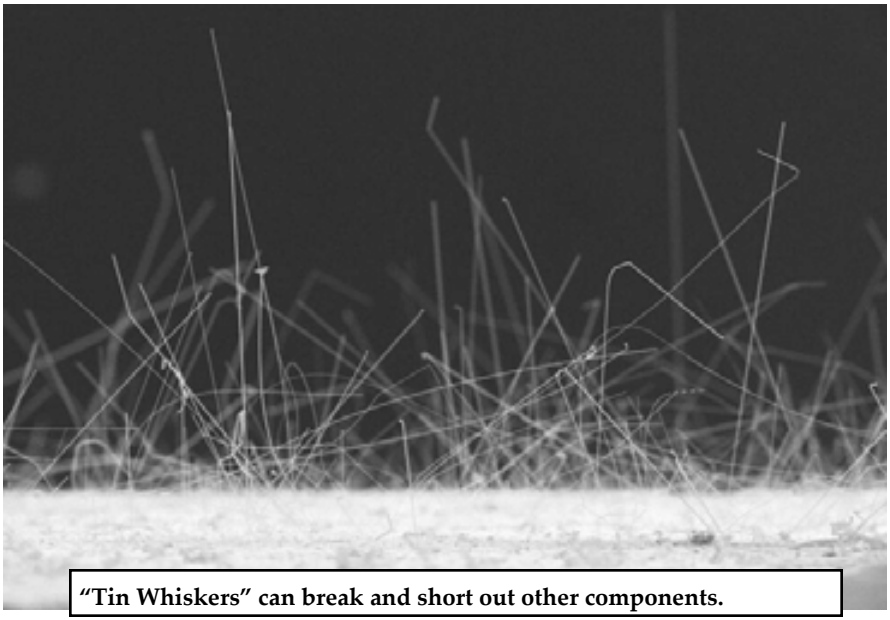
Silver Migration:

Ed Dupart's article on silver migration. This brings to mind current problems with "tin-whiskers" in modern electronics. In their zeal to protect us from ourselves, the various governments round the world have outlawed lead bearing solder. Some old timers may remember that in the



"Tin Fur" on a tuning condenser.

1940s and 1950s there were problems with solder (mostly nearly pure tin) and tin plated steel having little "whiskers" forming in an apparently similar manner (but not needing an electrolyte – and other metals such as cadmium or zinc can form whiskers – these are NOT dendrites). Not a big deal with older equipment with large spacing between parts and solder joints but as things became miniaturized, this problem was exacerbated. This was studied extensively by the military, Bell Labs, NASA, and others, and although the exact cause was never definitely pinned down (there may be several), the solution was to use solder bearing a significant amount of lead. Another partial answer was to "tropicalize" things with some kind of varnish or what we call "Conformal Coat" but the real solution was to have lead bearing solder. Fast Forward to the last 10 or 15 years and things are even smaller and lead bearing solder is outlawed and it is "déjà vu' all over again". Most military stuff (I do military radios in my work) is exempted but many parts we use are the same as used in commercial equipment and the leads are pure tin or matte tin. We have to be careful to pre-tin leads with lead bearing solder, or use solder paste (most things are surface mount and the parts are so small they look like grains of pepper so everything is done by machines or



"Tin Whiskers" can break and short out other components.

under microscopes) bearing a bit of extra lead, and we do use conformal coat. Conformal coat is a two-edged sword though as whiskers can still grow under the coating and then it has to be removed to remove the dendrite. A big problem with tin whiskers is they can break off under shock or vibration and thus short out other parts of a circuit. This problem is also being seen in consumer electronics but most of that is considered throw-away. If your DVD player , etc. mysteriously quits though, it might be good to look for tin whiskers before chucking it out. Integrated Circuit line widths and chip sizes have now gotten to the point where whisker and/or dendrite growth (due to electromigration) can kill an IC over time.

See the two pictures attached (from NASA) – note that the one is a radio from about 1960 and the frame of the tuning condenser is covered in "tin fur". For military and space purposes, where a product lifetime can exceed 30 years and the result of failure can threaten lives or cost millions of dollars, this is a huge problem and the various military groups are spending money and time on re-solving the problem. Some systems are put in place and not used for 10s of years then expected to perform – if whiskers grow the system can be useless when needed and also give a false sense of security. *John Foell, August 2019*

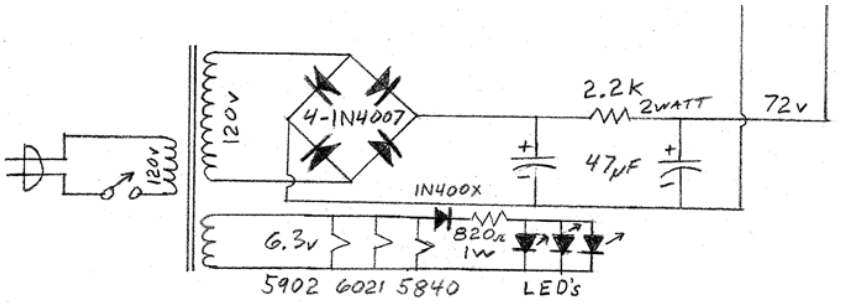
LED's for the Junk-box Jarrah Wood Radio

By Edward Dupart

(Ed's article , "The Junk Subminiature Tube Radio" in the Spring 2019 Bulletin referred to the use of LED's to light the radio's dial. In the article that follows Ed describes using junk box LED's.

I decided that my junk-box sub-miniature tube radio needed pilot lights and I wanted it to light up the dial, but what should I use? The old fashioned #47 or #46 pilot lights would work OK, but they generate heat and consume a fair amount of current. Then I thought about using LED's and the original red, green and yellow ones come to mind, but then I didn't want colored lights and I wasn't sure they would be bright enough. Sitting next to me was one of those freebee Harbor Freight LED flash-lights that belonged to someone else and they gave it to me because it became intermittent. He left the batteries in it too long and they leaked, but the LED's worked fine and they were white and very bright. Out came the current meter and I discovered they drew about 27mA individually and were intensely bright, too bright, but at 3 volts it drew about 2-3mA and was a useable brightness. Three LED's, one at each end of the dial and one in the middle was what I wanted, so I hooked three of them in parallel and ran them at 3 volts and the three of them drew about 7mA, had equal brilliance and were still quite bright. It was hard to believe they put out so much light with so little current. Now wonder these LED flashlights can run with the batteries half dead! So it was settled, white LED's it will be.

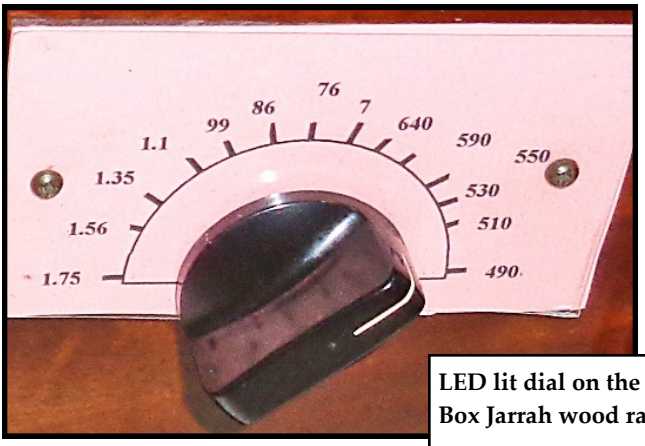
The 6-volt filament winding from the power transformer is the ideal power source for my LED's, but it is AC. I could apply the AC to the LED's but that would mean on one half of the AC cycle there would be reverse voltage of about 9 volts and I don't know what the PIV rating is for these LED's so I decided to rectify and filter the 6volts AC. So now for a little math in determining the peak voltage. 6.3volts times 1.414 gives me 8.9 volts peak and I rounded it off to 9volts. With a 1N4007 diode, and a filter capacitor my output voltage would be approximately 9 volts DC, neglecting the diode drop. In real life it did measure 9 volts. What I wanted was 6 volts across a dropping resistor and 3volts across the LED's at 7mA. Using ohm's law, dividing 6volts by 7mA gave me 857ohms. The closest commercial value is 820ohms and I had a nice looking 820ohm one watt resistor in my junk box of resistors and it was within tolerance. How



hot will my resistor run? With 6volts across the resistor and 7mA flowing through it and by ohm's law, P=ExI, 6volts times 7mA gives me a whopping .042watt. With this little power this resistor will never heat up. I built my power supply on a terminal strip and mounted it inside on the bottom of the cabinet and ran wires from the filament winding out to the terminal strip. I hooked it up to my LED's and it measured 7mA at 3volts and was plenty bright with equal brilliance.

How does it look? The dial consists of a 1/8" thick piece of plastic, the paper dial and a thin protective piece of plastic over the paper dial. I turned it on and I see three little white dots that do illuminate the 1/8" thick piece of plastic and with the three little dots one knows if it's on or not. At night the dial is lit up enough that one can see the numbers on the dial, which is what I wanted. These are the coolest (literally) pilot lights! So don't throw that freebee LED flashlight out! Use those LED's!

Ed Dupart, January 2019



LED lit dial on the Junk Box Jarrah wood radio.

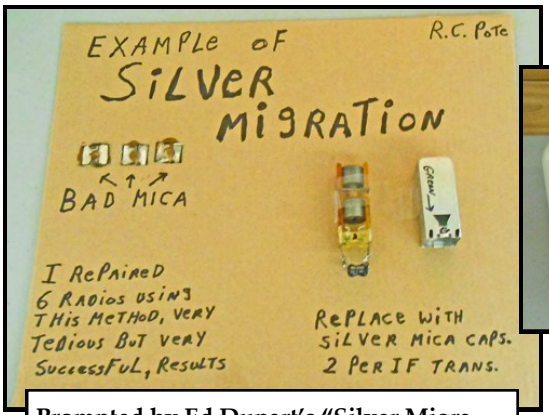
"Popular Vote Contest" entries, Cool Creek—2019

Crosley CR4 and Truetone entered by Steve Sliger. See page 18 for details.

Detrola, entered by Ken Lichtle. See page 16 for Ken's Detrola story.

1940 Ward's Airline, Ed Dupart. Page 19 provides the story on how Ed became the owner of this radio.

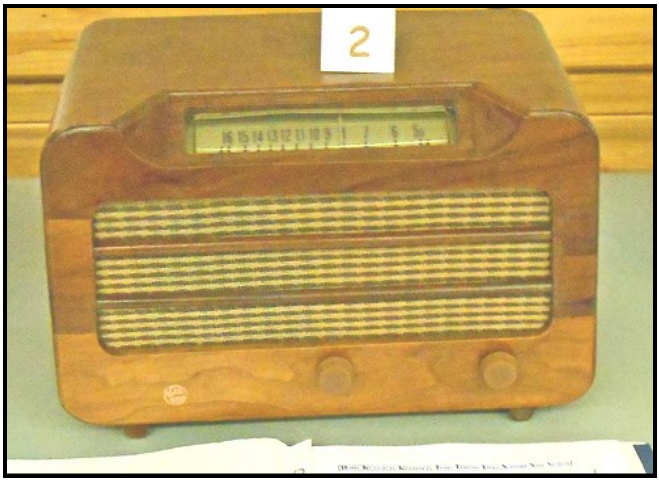
Tom Williams entered his Seven Transistor receiver.



Prompted by Ed Dupart's "Silver Migration" article, Bob Pote displayed his method of repairing IF transformers with the silver migration problem.

This Garod, model 5A-2 ,was entered by Fred Prohl

Say More About Your Contest Entry—Detrola



The 579 has the nicest styling of all the post WW2 Detrola products. It has a molded plywood cabinet with rounded corners on the sides and a flat front. This set came in blond and walnut finishes and is a really great performer, making a great stylish everyday radio for a collector today. The radio pictured came from a Detrola employee who had it since new, but through the years the cabinet became worn and was refinished. Unfortunately, the silk-screened logo was lost in the process. The plastic dial window was originally a bubble style, but it was damaged so a flat plastic, window was installed.

THE POSTWAR YEARS

After the end of WW2, radios were a hot commodity and manufacturers could sell everything they were able to produce for a few years. International Detrola was no exception, in a financial statement around the end of WW2 they reported having orders for millions of dollars worth of radios to be produced at a later date. There were only a couple dozen postwar models, but several of those were built in large quantities. The serial number range of the model 571 alone indicates that well over 300,00 of them were built in 1946-47. In particular, the 568, a metal cased rugged set, which was originally designed to be a military troop entertainment radio, the 571, 572, 576, and 579 are all very common sets and had a lot of different brand names, mostly obscure, used on them. One of the Detrola managers stated that it

took an order for a few hundred radios to get a custom silk screen made with whatever brand name and logo design the buyer wanted on the radio. Some of these are recognizable national brands, but many are obscure and impossible to trace. Many of the more common post-war Detrola brands seem to be related to auto and farm parts suppliers, gasoline, oil, or tire companies, mail order catalogs, and hardware stores. Examples of these brand names (with retailer in parentheses when known) are Aetna (Walgreen Drugs), AFA (farm co-op), Atlas (Standard Oil tire brand), Chanticleer (unknown), Cheer-tone (unknown), Cherokee (unknown), Cisco (most likely Cities Service Oil company), Cleartone (unknown), Delmar (unknown), Dixie (unknown), Electronia (unknown), Emerald (unknown), Freedom (coal mine company store), GLF (Grange League Federation, upstate NY farm co-op), LeMoine's (appliance store, Denver CO), Mantola (B F Goodrich tire company), Meier & Frank (department store, Portland OR), Melrose (unknown), Musicaire (Coast To Coast Stores), Richmond (unknown), Skelco (Skelly Gas Oil), Seiberling (tire Company), Southern States (farm co-op), Stratovox (Grossman Music, Cleveland), Tone-Test (unknown), Truetone (Western Auto), Tru-Test (unknown), US Grant (these were used in rooms of a San Diego hotel, never sold at retail), Val-Keen (unknown), Velvetone (unknown), and Van Camp (hardware company, Indianapolis). Please be aware that these retailers may have also purchased radios from other independent manufacturers, and not every radio of a particular brand name was built by Detrola. If you find the RMA code #213 on the paper ID tag which is usually glued onto the rear of the chassis it is a Detrola product. This code assigned by the Radio Manufacturers Association was to allow servicers to be able to identify the manufacturer of any given radio without having to actually put the name of the manufacturer on the product. This was very important for private brand sets because the distributors and retailers often did not want to reveal the manufacturers name to the customer. Variations of this RMA code frequently seen are 2135 and 2136, which most likely indicates which building the radios were built in. *Ken Lichtle*

"Say More" Crosley CR-4 and the Truetone D-2610/

Crosley CR-4
replica of Truetone 1946
model D-2610/D-2661

Crosley CR-4 "Truetone" 1940's style AM/FM radio cassette player. Originally introduced in Bakelite material in the 1940's, this reproduction is made from durable ABS plastic. The radio is true to the original D-2610/D-2661 in every other way, from the prominent center front square dial to the horizontal side louvers and dual tuning knobs. The D-2610 is a 5 tube AC model, the D-2661 is a 4 tube DC battery radio. The Crosley CR-4 is also updated with AM/FM radio and cassette player.

The Crosley company was begun in 1921 by Powell Crosley. The company today is a leading manufacturer of vintage wares-superbly crafted vintage reproductions feature the newest technologies graced by unforgettable styling's.

Truetone/ Western Auto Supply Co.
model D-2610 table radio
manufactured in 1946

Truetone radios were manufactured by several companies for Western Auto Supply Co., which used the Truetone brand name for the radios it marketed.

Western Auto Supply Company was a chain of automobile parts stores. It was started in 1909 in Kansas City, Missouri, by George Pepperdine. Western Auto was known for its "Western Flyer" bicycle and "Performance Radial GT" tire brands. Other Western Auto private labeled brands popular with consumers included "Davis Tires" (likely named for Don A Davis a WA President), "Tough One" Batteries, "Wizard" Tools, "TrueTone" electronics, and "Citation" appliances.

In 1998, parent company Sears sold the remnants of Western Auto to Advance Auto Parts of Roanoke, Virginia.

"Say More" Aunt Margie's Airline Radio

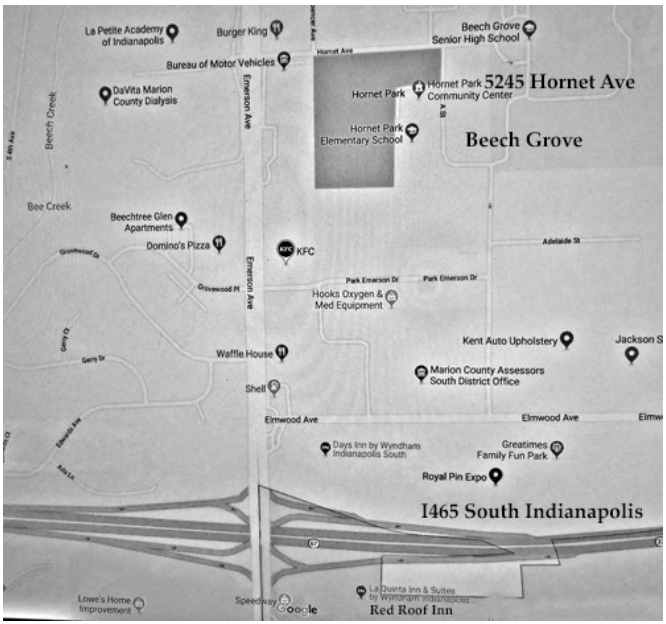
My Aunt's Kitchen Radio—Ed Dupart

My Aunt Margie bought this Ward's Airline radio brand new in 1940 at the downtown J. L. Hudson's store in Detroit where she worked during WWII and I was surprised Hudson's would carry Ward's products. At that time she would ride the train from Pontiac, Michigan with her husband who worked for the railroad to downtown Detroit and back to Pontiac. They lived on Pontiac Lake and their first floor of their house was built into a hill and the exposed wall faced the lake and had two windows. She had a small shelf put up between the windows shelf her little radio would sit and was always tuned to WJR Detroit. This room was both the kitchen and the dining area so this was her kitchen radio and was a very trouble free radio. When she moved to Florida in the 1970's she passed the radio onto me. It's not a valuable radio, but it contains a treasure trove of memories for me.

Vintage Radio Auction
5245 Hornet Avenue
Beech Grove, Indiana
Saturday, September 28, 2019

Preview: 11:00am Auction 12:30pm

This will be a high- quality radio auction featuring items from Dr. Ed Taylor of Indianapolis, Indiana, and the late Don Johnston of Windfall, Indiana. Both collectors endeavored to find quality items to collect and display-and this auction is a testament to that. There are items from the early 1900's to the 1960's for sale in this auction. All items sold as is. We will try to provide any relevant info on these items – such as horn speaker continuity, etc. All items must be removed from the facility by 8PM. Storage available offsite for up to 30 days if needed. Please read the following highlight list – many more pictures to be added to the Auctionzip listing after September 9.



Details:
NO buyer's Premium for in-person bidding; 4% if using credit card for purchases; absentee bidding- 15% buyer premium
Location: Hornet Park Community Center, 5245 Hornet Ave. Beech Grove, Indiana 46107
Auctioneer: Alan Cleary. (AU11900042).
Estate Auction Pros: estateauctionpros.com
Consultant: Bob Dobush. bobtheatre@aol.com 216-346-5298

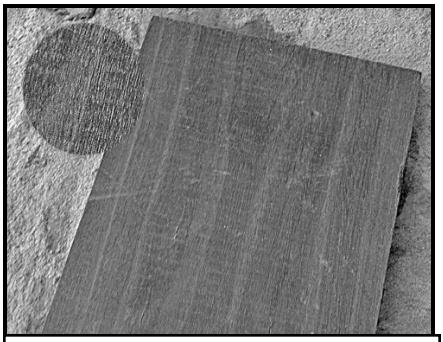
Vintage Radio Auction
Partial listing of sale items.

EH Scott radios
McMurdo Silver radios
Military radios
Emerson Catalin radio
Sonatron 3 tube amp
"RCA Radios" adv. lit sign
AK Breadboard radios
"Ship" frame cone speakers
Vogue records
DeForest RJ5 Detector box
Tube tester
EH Scott radio cabinets
Crosley Pup and Bonzo figures
1938"Volks" German radio
Radio parts
Regency Transistor radios
Superhet radios
Homebrew radios
Horn Speakers
RCA Radiola 26
Majestic "Eagle" adv. item
Microphones-some with flags
National power supplies
Bakelite lit adv. sign
Grebe battery sets
Crystal radios
Other radio adv. items
Early Zenith battery set
All Star radio chassis
Phone jack display
Radio books, magazines, tubes
Loose couplers
Vintage meter display

Junk Box Jarrah Wood Radio Cabinet

By Edward Dupart

This radio cabinet is made entirely of Jarrah wood. It is a very hard dense wood from Australia, and is insect resistant. For a bug to bite into this wood would be like for them to bite into concrete. Red, brown and yellow colors can be found from the same tree. Cutting the brown wood gave me red/orange sawdust and planing the same piece of wood gave me mustard yellow sawdust and red/orange shavings. A strange wood to work with, but also beautiful.

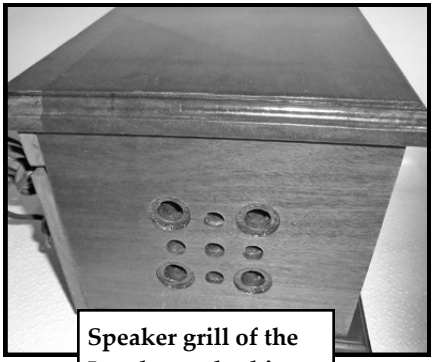


Jarrah wood tight grain. The circle is an enlargement of the grain surface.

I gave a couple of pieces to my brother in law who likes woodworking and he discovered that when he cut a piece in two that it took the set completely off the band saw blade and had to replace the blade. He needed to cut a hole in one piece and used a hole saw for making holes in a door and when he made the hole he got sparks from the bit. This gave me a clue just how hard this wood is.

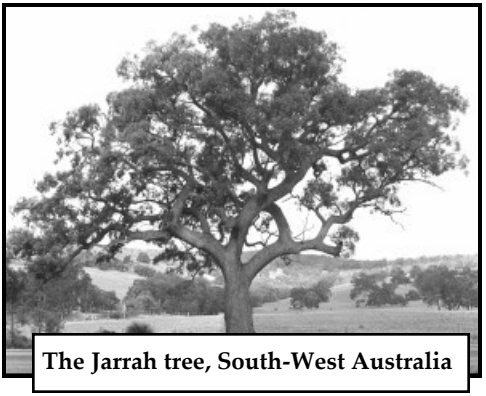
In keeping with the junk box theme, this Jarrah wood came from a company that makes outdoor furniture and they gave me the scraps, which I obtained from a friend of a friend who worked there. They gave me several pieces that were red, brown or tan in color. I built the radio cabinet front and sides from one brown piece that has yellow in the grain and was about 2 ¾" thick and about 7 " x 7". I used a table saw with a carbon tipped blade to slice this chunk of wood and it did slow the saw down somewhat so I had to go slowly, but it did a good job. The table saw blade couldn't slice through it completely so I used an Amish sharpened hand saw to complete cutting through the wood and the hand saw did a good job. Once I got my three pieces cut then I was ready to put it through the planer. Since this wood is so hard I would only shave small amounts at a time, but taking my time paid off. The wood is so hard that when it came through the planer and table saw the edges and tops were extremely smooth and required very little sanding. I didn't have a piece of Jarrah wood big enough for the base so I used Chinaberry, another

exotic wood. It was very red and yellow and didn't go with the brown Jarrah wood, so I used a can of black and a can of brown paint sprayed together that created the dark brown I wanted and it looked good. Next I drilled the holes in the base and the pilot holes in the sides and I tried putting the brass screws in to hold the sides to the base and the screws snapped in half. I used side cutters to get the broken screws out. The pilot holes had to be drilled out to match the diameter of the screws, then the screws went in. The screws came out and I made a channel in the two sides for the front to slide down into.



Speaker grill of the Jarrah wood cabinet.

The holes for the tuning, volume and regeneration were determined where they should be and using new auger bits I drilled the holes for them. There was no chipping, the edges were smooth and the inside of the hole was smooth, rather amazing. Drilling the speaker holes was a different story. I wanted a flower pattern for the speaker with four 1" holes and five smaller holes. The smaller holes were 5/8" and no problem drilling them, but the brand new 1" bit would only go down about and 1/8" and began to chatter and would not go any further. Even after I drilled a 5/8" hole, the 1" bit would not go any further. So my speaker grille area has nine 5/8" holes with four of them with 1" depressions and it looks good. This wood is so hard I decided to try and use a metal tap and thread the holes for mounting the speaker and actually use metal screws to mount the speaker. I couldn't believe it; it took considerable effort to get the metal tap to make threads in this wood! But it worked and when I mounted the speaker there was no sign of the screws stripping the wooden threads.



The Jarrah tree, South-West Australia

Jarrah Wood Radio Cabinet continued

About the hardness of Jarrah wood, while it is not the hardest wood it is harder then our northern hemisphere woods, like oak, maple and hickory and many others. There is a Janka scale used to determine the hardness of woods and is rated in pounds-force. The test is to measure the force it takes to embed a .444" ball to half of its diameter in wood. Basswood is 410, Oak is 1220, Maple is 1450, Hickory is 1820, Jarrah is 1860, Brazilian ebony is 3690 and the highest is Lignum Vitae at 4380. There are many other woods harder than Jarrah and most come from Australia, Africa, Central and South America.

After drilling the holes I put slots, using the table saw, at the top of the two sides so that I could slide a piece of Plexi-glass or glass and use that as a top. Then I sanded the sides and the front and used a clear lacquer on it and the wood immediately turned into a beautiful dark brown with a maroon cast to it. The yellow in the grain disappeared.

I made the back out of cheap pine and painted it a flat black. Drilling holes in it was like going through butter. Drilling pilot holes in the Jarrah wood is a necessity. I forgot to mention that when I drilled holes in the Jarrah wood I would usually get some smoke from the bit.

The dial was made on the computer and I initially printed it on plain white paper and then put it on the radio cabinet and marked the various frequencies where stations came in and marked it with a pencil. Then I printed the lines and numbers using the computer and printed it out. I place (placed) the dial on the computer and made sure it was accurate. My wife and I looked through different colored papers and chose on a light pink for the dial, so I printed it out and sandwiched it between and 1/8" piece of plastic and a thing (thin) piece of plastic that one commonly gets with packages nowadays. I drilled three ¼" holes for LED's to light the plastic dial and that worked out well.

I put the radio and cabinet all together and it looked nice and worked well, but it just needed a wooden top. I didn't have a brown piece of Jarrah wood long enough or wide enough for the top so I settled on using a 7" piece of reddish Jarrah wood and a 1" wide piece of tan Jarrah wood for the top. The edges were so smooth when I cut it with the table saw that I didn't need to touch up the edges, but I did countersink holes in the 1" piece and drilled pilot holes in the larger piece. Then I used old fashioned steel wood screws and glue to hold the two pieces together. After the glue

dried I did run it through the planer to make sure the top and bottom surfaces were smooth and matched. A router was used to do the edges on the top and bottom pieces and the Jarrah wood went through the router nicely giving a smooth surface with little sanding needed.

Even though the top was Jarrah wood the reddish color just clashed with the sides and the front so I stained the top to give it a more dark brown color, but I left the inside natural so one could compare the colors of this wood.

To mount the chassis to the cabinet and keeping with the junk box theme I used four used solder lugs. The kind where there is a hole on one end for a screw and a small hole on the other end for soldering wires to. What I did was solder the wire ends of the lugs together make a 90 degree bend and screw one end to the chassis and the other end to the cabinet bottom, and I did this at the back and front of the chassis.

Finally, this cabinet is done and I think it looks great!
Of course, I am a little biased.
Ed Dupart, December 2018

The Jarrah wood parts box radio.

2019—VINTAGE RADIO ACTIVITY—2019

Vintage Radio Auction! See page 20 of this Bulletin.
September 28, 2019
5245 Hornet Ave., Beech Grove, Indiana

Indiana Historical Radio Society and
the Cincinnati Antique Radio Society
October 5, 2019
Springwood Park, Richmond
See page 8 of this Bulletin

ARCI—Antique Radio Club of Illinois antique-radios.org
October 6, Swap Meet, American Legion Hall,
Carol Stream, IL

MARC—Michigan Antique Radio Club
michiganantiqueradio.org

CORA Central Ohio Antique Radio Association
coara.org

SPARK Society for the Preservation of Antique Radio Knowledge See
sparkantiqueradio.com for monthly meetings

CARS—Cincinnati Antique Radio Society
see page 8 for October 5 meeting
cincinnati –antique-radio.org

PARS—Pittsburg Antique Radio Society
pittantiqueradios.org
October 26th, Fall Radio Clinic and Contest
Brentwood, PA

MSARC - Mid-South Antique Radio Collectors

AWA Antique Wireless Association www.antiquewireless.org

Submit your "FREE TO CURRENT MEMBER" RadioAd by the 15th of February, May, August, or November in time for the Bulletin issue that follows. Unless otherwise requested, RadioAds will run two consecutive issues.

Want To Buy: Arvin/Kent dial pointers and on off knobs in black and ivory. Also need some radio handles for 2 projects. If there are some repros available that would work as well. Yes, I am willing to pay to get what I need. Thanks in advance.
Contact- LLOYD SPIVEY - email: lloydc.spivey@gmail.com

For Sale: Kennedy 26—$95.00 Needs restoration. Radio is complete and restorable. Controls are on the side. Will email pictures. Will assist with delivery in Marion and Johnson Counties, Indiana Fred Prohl, (317) 736 1228 or fprohl@gmail.com

2019 Officers	**Responsibilities**
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Michael Feldt, Vice President 12035 Somerset Way, East Carmel, Indiana 46033 (317) 844-0635 email: feldtm@msn.com	Sites and dates of meets
Don Yost, Treasurer 3814 E 400 N Windfall, Indiana 46076 (765) 945-7014 email: dearsir@netscape.com	**Dues**, financial, and address change. Please notify immediately of change of address.
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Bulletin Deadlines: News, Articles & Radio Ads, 2/15, 5/15, 8/15, 11/15
IHRS Web site address: www.indianahistoricalradio.org

The INDIANA HISTORICAL RADIO SOCIETY is a non-profit organization founded in 1971. Annual membership dues of $15.00 includes the quarterly IHRS "BULLETIN." Radio-Ads are free to all members. Please include an S.A.S.E. when requesting information. Send applications for membership and renewals to Don Yost, our treasurer as noted above.

The BULLETIN
A publication of the Indiana Historical Radio Society
Forty-eight years of documenting early radio.

ASSOCIATED NEWS SERVICE

LATEST WORLD EVENTS IN PICTURES

PASTOR MAKES GOOD USE OF RADIO

Rev. Lyman R. Hartley of the Fort George Presbyterian Church, New York, is a skillful and resourceful radio fan. He has installed many sets for his sick parishioners and, because his church has no organ, tapped the music broadcasted from the big city churches with the home-made loud speaker receiver shown.

April 13, 1923