ANTIQUE RADIO COLLECTORS & HISTORIANS (ARCH) OF GREATER ST. LOUIS

ARCH CLUB NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY & MARCH 2026

Special points of interest:

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Join us for our next meeting:

Tuesday
April 14th, 2026 at 7:30 PM

Kirkwood Community Center
111 S Geyer Road,
Saint Louis, MO
63122

This newsletter comprises both February and March 2026 ARCH meetings.

February Meeting Notes:

19 Members were present at the ARCH February Meeting! A great turnout for a meeting while being held on Feb 14th, *Valentines Day.* Two guest were present at the meeting.

Bob Pelc was a visitor. Brought his grandfather's radio, a Zenith 7H820UZ. Bob is looking to discover if any radio club member would be interested in restoring the radio for him. His number, provided to the club, is 314-971-4355.

Phil walked into the club meeting. He is new to the hobby and finds the act of repairing a radio to be interesting. He brought a small Philco wood case radio. Looking for physical (and spiritual) guidance to restore radios.

Cookies brought in by an ARCH member were again enjoyed by everyone.

The Winterfest Hamfest, an annual January radio event in Collinsville, Illinois, was discussed. The hamfest was considered by members to be a small success given circumstances. Bad weather had arrived in the area the day of the event and kept many people away. The temperature outside was 4 degrees Fahrenheit with a wind-chill of –18 degrees! Snow was also to be arriving in the area that day.

March Meeting Notes:

20 Members were present and two visitors. Club member Fred offered a Philco 37-116X to anyone that will provide it a good home.
This Philco is a 15 tube console/floor radio.

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Club dues for calendar year 2026 are $20.00 dollars. (Same price for 10+ years!) Please support the club and become a paying member. Dues go toward the Christmas party, room rental, and club picnic events. Checks can be sent to Roger Cole. Address is found on the last page.

March Meeting Minutes (continued)

The two visitors spoke briefly….

Mark was visiting from Arnold, MO. Explained he is trying to work on old radios. He has a couple of old radios he would like to restore.

Joe B. is from Jackson, Missouri. He drove ~2-hours each way to attend this ARCH meeting! He has been collecting radios for 40+ years. He has recently retired and now wants to get his radios working. He has in his collection 6 floor consoles and more than 60 tabletop radios!

During the meeting a past radio club member named Gary Micanek was spoken about. Joe described how he sends e-mails out and Gary's e-mail address was reflecting. Joe decided to call Gary. Was surprised to hear Gary answer the phone. They had a good conversation. Gary, a past club member in his 80s, bragged about dating a girl whom is in her 50s.

Joe has a lot of tubes currently… if a club member needs a tube, capacitor, or resistor, let Joe know. He will work with you.

ARCH radio club picnic will be held in May tentatively.

Event Announcements (Hamfest & Club Events)

River Hills ARC Hamfest

Date: April 11th, 2026
Location: Fraternal Order of Eagles
Address: 2746 W St. Jospeh St, Perryville, MO 63775
Time: 8:00 A.M. to 1:00 PM
Note: Admission is $5.00 per person.
Will have both vendor and swap tables.

Egyptian Hamfest

Date: June 14th, 2026
Location: VFW Post 4223
Address: 215 Military Road, Saint Louis, MO 63125
Time: unknown
Website: www.w9aiu.org
Note: Event details are not on the club's website yet.

ARCH Spring Picnic

Will be held in May possibly. More details are forthcoming.



Local and National Radio News—Kind of….

The next "KDHX" station is Community Radio Saint Louis (CRSTL).

KDHZ DJ and staff have created an on-line radio station. LOVE of Community Radio STL is a 501c, non-profit organization based in St. Louis, Missouri. The group has evolved out of LOVE of KDHX, a group originally dedicated to saving 88.1 FM KDHX from bankruptcy. With the loss of KDHX, we have regrouped to focus on starting a new community radio station that will be powered by volunteers and governed responsibly. This new station has started to stream online. At some time the desire is to again broadcast on the FM dial.

LINK to Listen to Radio Saint Louis Community Radio: Home | CRSTL.FM - Community Radio St. Louis or Direct URL of www.crstl.fm

Excerpts from a news story featured within St. Louis Magazine:

While getting an internet radio station off the ground is CRSTL's immediate and most pressing priority, the efforts from the group behind the station don't end there. Roy Kasten, former KDHX DJ and now a principle player within CRSTL, says they'll be making a concerted effort to produce events in the community, including concerts, DJ spins and trivia nights. The group hosted a record and CD sale at their Lindenwood Park Place home in December, and they'll be bringing in bands for in-studio performances as well, with the first planned for the station's February 1 kickoff. Eventually, Kasten says, they plan to find their way back to the terrestrial radio dial.
"We are committed to getting back on the FM airwaves," he says. "That's going to take time, and, frankly, a fair amount of money. But we are going to get there."

In all, CRSTL represents a dedicated effort to get back to the roots that made KDHX a beloved asset for the city—one that was launched by St. Louisans, for St. Louisans.

"KDHX was started as a volunteer-based grassroots community radio station, with a board of directors made up of deep music fans, people who are deeply connected to the musical community and the radio community, and with great knowledge and experience with music and community radio and broadcasting," Kasten says. "That was the origins of Double Helix and KDHX in 1987 and we, I think, are trying to do our best to return to that."

Show and Tell - February 2026 Club Meeting

Dave Kunkle — 1959 RCA Victor SHP-13 Stereo Orthophonic Hi-Fidelity Record Player

Dave first mentioned how he got this radio. I, the newsletter editor, did not write down the story describing how he got it… but my memory is that his daughter saved it from the trash at an estate sale. She really liked the record player and brought it home to her dad for repair. Little did Dave understand is how much time and money this restoration would become.



Record player (with internal speaker) on left with the optional external SHS-13 speaker on right to provide stereo sound.

What does "Orthophonic" mean? The word "ortho-" means "true" or "proper". The word "-phonic" means sound. So… "*True Sound*"

RCA using the word Orthophonic referred to their recording process that produces speech accurately without distortion. RCA performed the cutting of records with Western Electric Microphones instead of the traditional acoustic horn. This YouTube video features RCA's 1958 promotional film of the Stereophonic technology.

URL for video " RCA ANNOUNCES LIVING STEREO " 1958 RCA VICTOR PROMO FILM FOR STEREOPHONIC LP RECORDS GG25605

Type URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YT7JLEjusQE

Dave described he had to tackle this project by dividing it up into three (3) different smaller projects.

Part #1 of 3 - Record Player/Changer Repair—Model #RP205:

The record changer had a lot of hardened grease. All the rubber components were bad due to the era rubber disintegrating. Rubber parts were ordered along with a new needle. The most difficult thing to repair was the turntable itself. Dave was unable to determine initially why the turntable would not turn by the motor alone. When disassembling to clean and lubricate the parts, it was discovered the turntable's thrust bearing was incorrectly replaced. In the past, someone had replaced the trust bearing with a normal washer. As thrust bearing are not available today, Dave had to resort to buying a parts record spindle only for the needed thrust washer. This repair was successful!



The top washers are what was inside the record changer when procured.

The bottom is the correct thrust washer. Notice ball bearings embedded into the washer.

Dave Kunkle — 1959 RCA SHP-13 Record Player (Continued)

Part #2 of 3 - Audio Amplifier —Model #RS-172:

Like many old electronic radios & amplifiers, a hum was audibly present when plugged in. This audio hum is due to electrolytic capacitors failing. An internal selenium rectifier was found to be still operating. The volume knob and other controls were dirty. A total electronic rebuild of the chassis occurred. The selenium rectifier was replaced with a silicone rectifier. To provide the proper voltage dropping, a series resistor value was calculated. The calculation then required slight trial and error to get settle upon a value of 180 ohms. As a result of the resistor, the warm up time is slightly extended.

A total of 18 paper capacitors were replaced along with 6 electrolytic. A total of 7 resistors were found out of tolerance. The power supply notably has 3 different output voltages. Each channel uses a 12AU6 as a preamp and a 35C5 audio output tube. Class A-amplification. Chassis was cleaned using Brasso and a lot of elbow grease.

Part #3 of 3—Cosmetics:

The Tolex covering, a form of vinyl, on each side was dirty, torn, and scratched to some degree. A missing RCA Victor emblem was missing on a speaker. This was replaced with a 3D printed emblem found on eBay. Dave went into detail about his repair of the cover. He simply found pieces of it on the inside of the lid. These pieces, not visible, were cut and used to patch visible holes.





Top pictures: Polishing and cleaning with 409 and a toothbrush really cleaned up the case. A repair of the handle's covering is now indistinguishable and visually perfect.

Audio issues post restoration:

Records played did not sound right in mono mode or stereo mode. Everything was checking out fine. The audio output was not acceptable given the output audio tube capability. Dave spoke to his friend whom knew and understood the problem. RCA had used a unique needle cartridge. The cartridge RCA used was one in which the left and right channels were electrically out-of-phase. Because of this, when playing in mono mode, the difference in left and right signals were canceling themselves out in mono mode. In stereo mode, the sounds were simply not right. The proper cartridge was wired to have 'R+' connected to ground and 'R–' to the audio input. A huge improvement in sound quality and loudness resulted with the proper wiring established.

The satellite/external speaker is hard to find. The external speaker can not be stored or attached to the main case. Likely many were lost over the years due to this separation. The external speaker has one 6.5 inch internal speaker cone. The main unit has a better speaker setup with a 6.5 inch speaker and two 3.5 inch tweeters.

Dave played an RCA record that demonstrated this stereo sound capability to ARCH members at the meeting. The record was of a steam locomotive passing by from the right to left. The locomotive recording sounded truly realistic!

Stan Viglione —1938 Silvertone Model #6110 aka "Rocket Radio"

Stan found this radio and thought it looked interesting. Silvertone was Sear's consumer electronics brand. The radio came in three colors, black, ivory, or brown. Sold for between $11.95 and $12.95 in 1938.

Stan spoke about the design of the radio and of the era. This radio, designed by American designer Clarence Karstadt, was at the height of both the Machine age and Art Deco design era. The design was so unique that it was patented. (D113,004) Inspiration of the cabinet design was from stream-lined locomotives that were becoming more prevalent. The idea of Space travel is also seen. This radio, due to it's vintage style has been exhibited within the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Sears advertised the radio as, "*Designed for modern people living in a modern world.*"

This radio utilizes a 5-tube TRF design. The six mechanical buttons, visible on the top, are for station presets. The bakelite/plaskon housing was prone to cracking due to usage. The commercial impact of this radio was small but the design is such that its legacy endures.





Front and Rear of radio respectively.



A look at the dial. The frequency numbers are printed on the dial along with the word "Silvertone". Tunning of the radio is performed by turning this dial

Stock image of the radio's interior.



Bill Petty – 1930's era Spartan Radio

Bill spoke about his friend that is a Catlin radio collector. Bill's friend has a Calin collection that is very valuable today. His friend is currently working to sell the radio estate of an ex-radio collector. Bill procured this radio from the estate. The radio is a Spartan radio from the 1930's. The metal chrome plated case has been polished. The radio has been electronically restored but the power cable needs replaced currently. Bill bought this radio because it is a shelf "queen". Looks great on his shelf!



Ken Neiman — 1941 Zenith 7-S-529

Found this Zenith bookshelf radio on Facebook Marketplace. The radio, advertised to be restored, was later discovered to be unrestored. Ken spoke briefly about how Zenith had some good tubes… and not so great tubes. The 6X5 rectifier tube was known to have internal electrical issues overtime. The 6X5 tube had a cathode that would bend over from heat and gravity over time. Eventually the cathode metal wires would short against the tube's plate. When this occurs, the transformer is overloaded and burns out. The 6X5 tube was eventually replaced by the 6X5GT. This later tube, smaller in size, was more reliable during operation.

Ken spoke about a service bulletin found in Zenith's service hints of April 1943. This bulletin/memo states that a dial light should be wired into each rectifier plate lead. The light will glow dimly during normal usage. Upon the rectifier tube failing, the bulbs will glow brightly and eventually burn out. Zenith repair shops stated this repair is better than a fuse as the bulb can temporarily undergo power overloads.

Ken outlined what products he used to restore. Knowing what other members use to restore radios is really great information!

Chassis Cleaning—Super Clean
Bezel Cleaning—Bar Keepers Friend
Bezel Sealer—Rust-oleum Lacquer
Tone Contacts—DeoxIT D5
Volume Control—DeoxIT Fader F5
Tuner Control—CRC QD Electronic Cleaner
Tuner Lube—CRC 2-26
Chassis/Wood Clean—Goop Hand Cleaner
Wood Polish—Thomasville Wood Cleaner & polish
This radio has been fully restored and is operational!

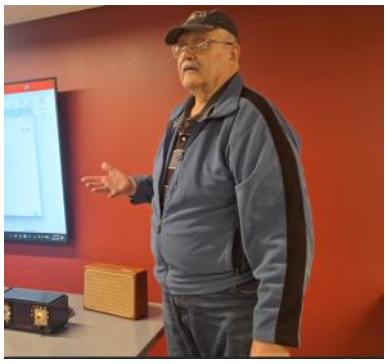


Carl Kleinsorge — 1953 Philco Transitone Alarm Clock Radio Model #53-701

This was the top of the line clock radio for Philco. Uses an All-American 5 tube lineup employing miniature tubes. Has a 4-inch speaker, in the middle, directed forward. One thing Carl found to be unique is the dial. The dial is illuminated! He stated he has never seen an illuminated dial before.

A outlet in the rear is for the turning on a light or a coffee maker with the alarm. The outlet can support electrical loads up to 1,100 watts. Editors Note: No alarm clock sold today can do this!





The radio receives an additional frequency band. The additional band is called the "Special Services" band. This Special Service band consist of frequencies between 1.7 Megacycles and 3.4 Megacycles. (Notably, the radio can receive WWV at 2.5 MHz.) The Special Serve's band, at the time this radio was made, consisted of government, police, fire, aircraft, fishing services and other dedicated military services.

After speaking about this radio, Carl placed it on the club's auction table!
It pays to attend meetings!

Canio Vaccaro — 1929 Victor RE-45—Radio Electrola

Canio discussed his ongoing restoration project of a Victor RE-45.

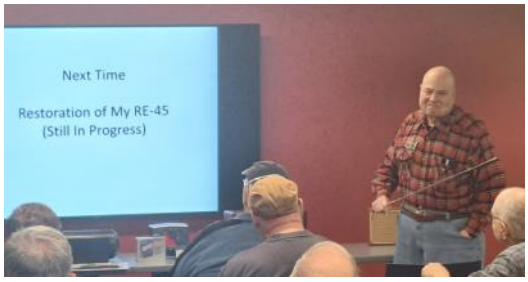
This radio was made by the Victor Talking Machine Company. This radio was one of the final models made by Victor before being bought out by RCA.

The price of an RE-45 was $275 without tubes. This price is equivalent to $5,175 in 2026.



The radio was praised for the following:

- Great reception and selectivity.
- Volume reserve of the 245 amplifier.
- Clean bass from the Burtex electrodynamic speakers.
- Usage of a brushless magnetic induction disc motor. (No belts!)



URL Demonstrating the performance and operation of a RE-45. www.youtube.com/watch?v=J1uxN2brT-w

Canio's own Radio Electrola will be demonstrated at a future meeting.

February Raffle Table

This months raffle table had three item when including Carl's donated 1953 Philco alarm clock. The other two items on the table are pictured below.



RCA Victor AM Radio

RCA Victor Alarm Clock

Note: Money raised by the club raffle is used to keep club member dues low.
Money also goes toward club events and room rental.

Show and Tell - March 2026 Club Meeting

Canio Vaccaro — 1929 Victor RE-45—Radio Electrola (Restoration Finished)

Canio gave a detailed description of this radio. The restoration was flawless. This radio was briefly discussed at the ARCH February meeting. (Please review his discussion of this radio within this newsletter on page #10.) Restoration of the radio is now completed. This newsletter does not do justice of his work or the radio itself.



This radio was not brought into the meeting due to its weight of 147 lbs. The speaker itself weighs 20-lbs with the amplifier weighing 30-lbs. Notably, this set is one of the first and the start of records players employing a magnetic pickup. The prior use of acoustic sound cavities and paths would no longer be necessary.

Cabinet repair was required. Canio has become a master of cabinet repair. Delamination due to water damage were apparent. New veneer replaced veneer on the top. The top veneer replacement eventually went really well. Canio expressed a positive experience using veneer with a adhesive backing. No messing with glue paste!

Split leg was repaired.



Items Canio utilized to restore the cabinet were....
Cabinet cleaned with Goop and Howard's Restor-A-Finish.
Legs, and trim were sprayed with Mohawk Extra Dark Walnut Toner.





Cabinet with the doors closed and open after restoration.

Canio Vaccaro — 1929 Victor RE-45—Radio Electrola (Restoration Finished) (Continued)

The amplifier and speaker were in good shape but not electrically in ideal shape. Canio replaced the filter and bypass capacitors. The grid leak resistors were replaced. For added protection of the transformer, Canio added a 2-Amp fuse. The chassis was cleaned and repainted with Rustoleum Leather Brown Gloss Enamel. The power cord was replaced with a period authentic cloth covered wire coupled to a period correct plug and socket.





Above the amplifier, Model 245, both before and after restoration. The tubes are 80, 45, 45, and a 26,



The Filter Caps were contained within this metal enclosure. Inside was a wooden box that was filled with tar. Canio made a new wooden box containing new capacitors.

Canio Vaccaro — 1929 Victor RE-45—Radio Electrola (Restoration Finished) (Continued)

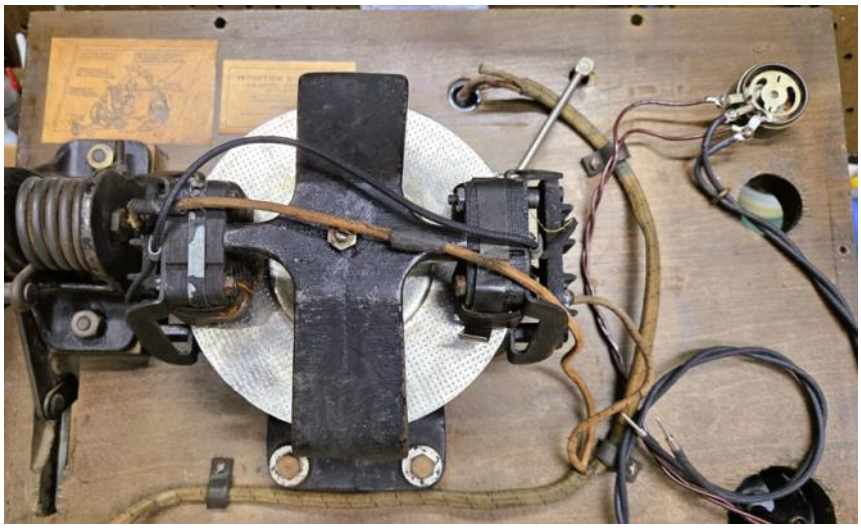
Phonograph Restoration included a complete disassembly of the induction motor. The motor was rebuilt after being cleaned. The governor was adjusted to provide proper rotational speed. The tone arm required a lubrication of the bearings and associated gears. Rubber washer restored vibration damning and cushioning. The tone arm was cleaned and painted with Rustoleum Gloss Black Enamel.





Top view of the induction motor. To the right is the induction motor cleaned. Notice the governor assembly at the bottom of the picture.

Reassembled motor and new wiring.



Canio Vaccaro — 1929 Victor RE-45—Radio Electrola (Restoration Finished) (Continued)



Phonograph portion of the radio fully restored! Note, the record player utilizes steel needles. The needles are good for one play. Once used, a new needle is required.

Canio played a video of the radio and record player working. This was a very time consuming restoration of the radio and cabinet. Canio is glad it is done. This may be one of the heaviest restorations he has done.



Carl Kleinsorge — Corona 5-tube wood radio



Carl started explaining that he thinks this radio was made in California. Many online resources state Carona, a radio and television builder, was in Chicago, IL. This radio was brought to the meeting as Carl cannot find any information on the radio. The model number on the rear is not legible. As one of the tubes is a ballast tube, this is really, according to Carl, a 4-tube radio. Carl described that being a 4-tube radio, this means there is no IF amplifier. As a result of no IF amplifier, this is not a strong receiver. A long wire, for an antenna, is required for best signal reception. Notably, each tube is a 4-pin tube except for the rectifier which is an octal tube. The knob in the front through the plastic dial cover, is directly connected to the tunning capacitor. This type of direct connection of a knob to the tunning dial and needle/pointer is a cost savings action some manufactures made.

Ken Neiman — Commercial Internet, Phone, and Cable service offerings

Ken discussed his displeasure of local internet service providers. He described his discovery of other internet services that are both reliable and cost effective. The cost of digital TV, internet TV, home phone service is simply getting expensive. Today, commercials are being shown on TV that people are paying to watch! (SiriusXM radio now has commercials occasionally.) Scammers are routinely calling home phone numbers… frustrating those that pay for home phone service.



Ken spoke about the Tablo TV Module show. This device permits you to watch live over the air TV and record shows.

Ken has moved to T-Mobile for internet. This service, utilizing 5G cellular service, cost him $39.99 a month and he is very happy with the service offering.

Dave Kunkle — Late 1930's era Majestic radio Dave calls "*Franken Charlie*"

Dave's friend Larry P. whom recently passed away, had this radio in his collection. Dave was able to procure this radio from Larry's estate. This radio is a Majestic radio that was created with a figurine of Charlie McCarthy on the front. Charlie McCarthy was a "dummy" partner of ventriloquist Edgar Bergen.

The radio chassis is comprised of 5 tubes that comprise an All American five (AA-5) lineup. Dave discovered that Majestic Charlie radios described online had a different tube lineup. The back of his radio also had an odd paper mâché back. He was confused what this radio really is. Utilizing a radio model search, based upon the tube line up, revealed it is a Majestic Model #150L. The Majestic 150L is the same cabinet found within Charlie radios. Dave firmly believes this is a Majestic 150L that has been rebadged to be a Charlie radio by the placement of a Charlie figurine on the front. The plate had also been adhered to the radio. Notably, Majestic 150L radios had a small dimple for attaching a Charlie figuring to the radio.

Dave wanted to witness the radio working. The radio would power on but no audio sound would occur. Due to it powering on, Dave knew an issue had to be within the audio amplifier portion. (At least a good place to start!) The 35L6 audio output tube requires a 500k ohm resistor for bias purposes. Dave discovered a 0.500k ohm resistor in place of the 500k ohm! Someone, in the past, simply messed up the value of the resistor. (Green-Black-Yellow versus Green-Black-Brown)

Once the resistor was replaced, audio output occurred. However, an additional issue was discovered. The radio would "motorboat" at frequency below 680 kHz. (A form of oscillation?) Dave determined the prior radio restorer likely started turning alignment screws thinking the non-working state was due to transformer alignment being improper. The radio was discovered to simply be **very** far out of alignment.

<u>Dave's…. Tales from the bench….</u>

Dave held a short dialog regarding the presence of AC line base electrical noise. While working in his basement, an interfering signal would be hear on radios randomly. He discovered it was his deep freezer cycling on.





March Raffle Table

This months raffle table had several speakers. Speakers are indispensable for radio restoration.



A collection of old tubes were also placed on the table.

Note: Money raised by the club raffle is used to keep club member dues low.
Money also goes toward club events and room rental.

Radio History—The Great Tube Count Hoax

Editor's Note: The great tube count fraud gets spoken about at some meetings. Mainly by Joe T., Carl K., and Dave K.. This was an interesting event within radio history! Interesting as it involved the advertisement of a radio's performance as manufacturing cost went down.

The Great Tube Count Hoax

The "Great Tube Count Hoax" (sometimes called "The Tube Scam") was a deceptive marketing trend that peaked in the mid-to-late 1960s, just as vacuum tubes were beginning to lose the war against transistors.

As transistors became cheaper, tube radio and TV manufacturers faced a problem: the public had been trained for decades to believe that more tubes meant a more powerful, higher-quality radios and televisions. To keep sales up without actually improving the technology, some companies resorted to sneaky "padding" tactics.

How the Hoax Worked…..
"Dummy" Tubes: Manufacturers would solder in extra tubes that were technically "on" (the heaters would glow) but weren't connected to the signal path. They did nothing for the sound or reception; they were just there so the box could say "12 Tube Power!" instead of "8 Tube." This was also found in transistor radios. Transistors, likely nonworking ones, were soldered onto a board, but not electrically connected.

Multi-Unit "Cheating": When the Compactron (which we talked about within an earlier newsletter) came out, it actually hurt marketing. A single Compactron could do the work of three "old" tubes. Manufacturers realized that if they used Compactrons, their "tube count" would drop, making their fancy new TVs look "weaker" to uneducated buyers. As a result, Compactron's could have likely been heavily used in many other circuit locations.

The Diode Trick: Some companies began counting every diode (selenium pre late 1960s) as a "tube" and later as a "transistor" in their advertisements to inflate the numbers.

The Crackdown: The practice became so widespread and misleading that the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) eventually stepped in. In 1966, the FTC issued a formal ruling stating that manufacturers could only count "active" tubes that performed a recognized function in the amplification or reception of the signal. They were no longer allowed to count "dummy" tubes or separate elements within a single glass bulb as multiple tubes.

If you find a vintage radio advertisement from 1967 or later, you'll often see the wording such as "10 Tube Power" or "Solid State." Solid State would be used when tubes were still utilized. The word to watch out for is "Performance" as in, "Exhibits 16-tube performance." Radio manufactures stated that utilizing the word "performance" was proper advertisement. Regardless, once the FTC stopped them from "padding" the tube counts, manufacturers quickly shifted their marketing to brag about how few tubes they had (technical achievements), and pivoting to the "modern" world of transistor usage instead.

Radio History—The Great Tube Count Hoax (Continued)

One Last Bit of Trivia:

The most famous victim of this marketing shift was actually the Compactron itself. Even though it was superior technology, it "looked" like less value to the consumer because a TV might only have 8
Compactrons instead of 20 standard tubes. This is why many late-60s TVs are a messy mix of both—they used Compactrons for efficiency but kept a few old-style tubes just to keep the "tube count" high for the brochures.

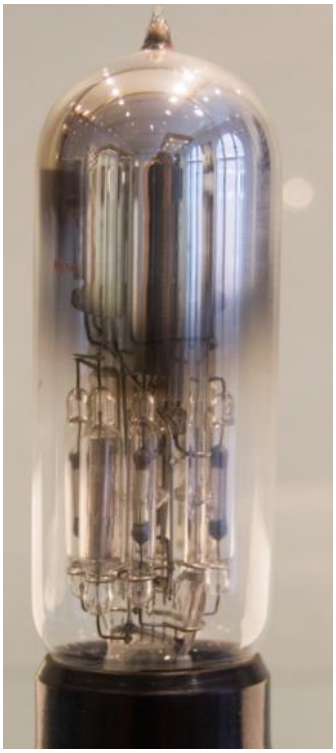
Editor's Note:

Someone needs to do something about "Power Output" specifications. I am getting tired of new radios advertising 200 Watts of (audio) power. This is not possible given the wire, power supply, etc. Comical how my Zenith console radio (7-Watts) of audio output is louder than a new 100 watt radio sold today.

This is a good video explaining/illustrating various transistor radios also incorrectly counted transistors. Many of these radios featured counted diodes as being a "transistor". The creator of this video states that 6 transistors were the optimal number of transistors needed for a pocket sized radio.

YouTube Video Link: The Transistor Wars
URL: www.youtube.com/watch?v=UJpggY_5rs&t=4s

Loewe 3NF Tube — Radio in Glass



The above manufactures were increasing their tube count. An opposite action was occurring decades prior. The Loewe 3NF tube was produced by German tube manufacture Loewe-Audion GmbH. This 1926 era tube consisted of 3 individual tubes within one single glass envelope.

This tube was created to reduce taxes leveed per radio valve/tube in a radio. Having one tube in a radio was a huge advantage for manufactures to keep cost low. This tube was created solely to circumnavigate tax to keep cost to a minimum. More than one million of these tubes were sold. A big issue with these tubes was that if one portion went bad, the whole tube was unusable. Notably, Loewe-Audion offered repair service on these tubes.

Within the glass envelope are also two fixed capacitors and four fixed resistors. The only parts needed to build a radio was the tunning coil, the tunning capacitor, and a loudspeaker.

Editor's Note: I have been trying to find one of these tubes for years. I have never found one. There are several for sale that "went to air". I would like to see this tube working within a radio someday….

Jack Carney—STL Radio Personality

Jack Carney was a laid back radio voice that was easy to listen to. His on-air irreverence is still being mimicked today. A listener could tell he was having fun doing his job.



Jack Carney was born in Los Angeles on August 23, 1932. He attended UCLA where he studied law. Out of curiosity Carney took radio classes and soon changed his mind about a future career in law.

Carney took his first radio job in New Mexico and moved from job to job at small stations throughout the southwest early in his career. Carney then became a rock n' roll disc jockey serving up the hits to teens in Milwaukee, Atlanta, and Boston.

Carney's first job in St. Louis came on WIL Radio in 1958. While at WIL he tried to put the letter 'D' on the end of the callsign. Jack was a radio gypsies, always moving, before he settled down in Missouri. In MO at WIL is where he made his mark on radio listeners. He concocted bizarre stunts that appealed to many (mostly teenagers). WIL went from number seven, in the seven-station city, to number one in just six weeks after he joined the staff.

He eventually invented a character called "Pookie Snackenberg", who became a hero with St. Louis teens. On one occasion, he asked listeners to pull the tuning knobs off their home and car radios so the dial couldn't be moved away from WIL — and weeks later irate parents were still digging through the three barrels of knobs Carney had received. On one occasion he offered twenty dollars to anyone who showed up with a bird on his head (after playing a record called Bird on My Head) and there were fifty takers standing around the stations with birds half an hour from the announcement. When it was time for summer vacations to end he asked, for fifty words or less — he said he'd settle for one — on "Why I am delighted to be returning to school," the winner to be driven by Carney to class and home each day for a week, in a limousine. Hokey? Yes! But Carney's presentation of "The Silver Dollar Survey" was one of the most influential programs on radio at the time.

In 1960 Jack, while in his 30's, left WIL for WABC in New York City, New York. WABC was the largest radio stion in the nation. After six month, he walked away from the station and a salary of $2,000 a week. ($22,000 a week in 2026 dollars). He stated he left because, "I do not want to sell pimple cream to kids." He came back and joined KMOX in 1971. He replaced Jack Buck who left while working as a host at the stations morning show.

In the early '80s, Jack Carney was eventually paid an annual salary of $400,000, and that amount was greatly supplemented by extra fees paid for him to do sponsors' commercials live. ($400,000 in early 1980 is equal to $1.5 million in 2026 dollars.)

There were times when Carney was difficult to work with or difficult to be around. Most people understood. He was an absolute perfectionist when it came to his on-air product and he had no patience with the person who didn't produce. Friends said he settled down and became more focused after his marriage to third wife

Jack Carney - STL Radio Personality (Continued)

During his 13 consecutive years at KMOX, virtually every celebrity that passed through St. Louis stopped by to say hello to Jack Carney.

Statements others have made about Jack's Radio Personality:

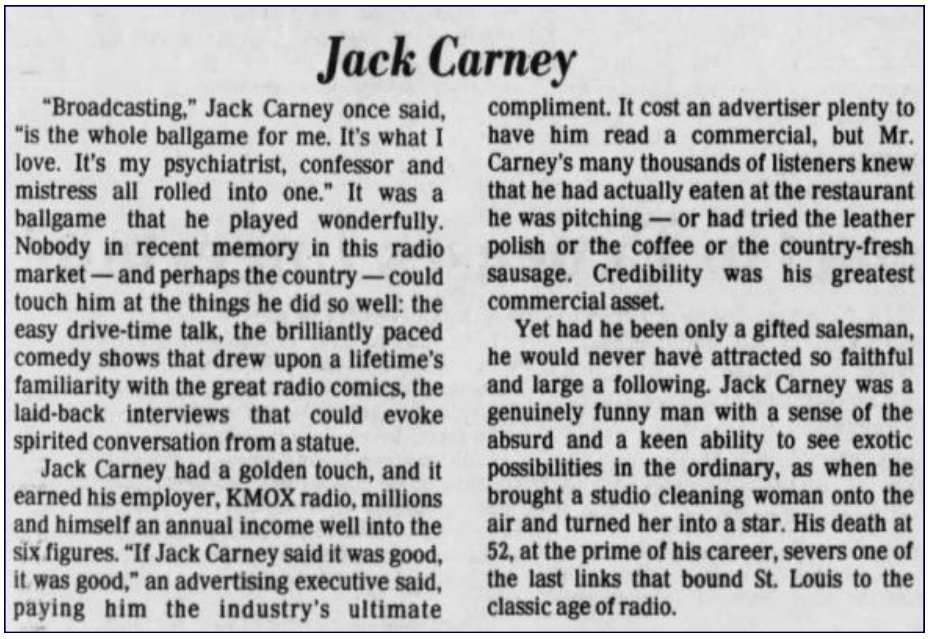
St. Louis Post-Dispatch broadcast critic Erik Mink said, *"The effectiveness of Carney's commercials was due to his mastery at weaving them into the fabric of his program. The two elements were so intimately intertwined that often it was impossible to tell where the program stopped and the commercial began."*

Dan Ingram (disc jockey at WIL and WABC): "*When we worked together at WIL, Jack had the uncanny ability to ad lib a spot and make an essay out of it. I've never known anyone else who could do it. His talent was unique, his humor uplifting and inspiring. Jack was wild, fun, wonderful to know and incredibly talented."*

Robert Hyland (KMOX general manager): *"He was a giant in the industry. There will never be another. He had a unique style that will never be duplicated. He was one of the greatest communicators that. I have ever seen."*

Jack Carney died of a sudden heart attack at 52 years old while training to be a SCUBA diver.

Jack is a member within the Hall of Fame Museum of Broadcast Communications in Chicago, IL



Jack Carney

"Broadcasting," Jack Carney once said, "is the whole ballgame for me. It's what I love. It's my psychiatrist, confessor and mistress all rolled into one." It was a ballgame that he played wonderfully. Nobody in recent memory in this radio market — and perhaps the country — could touch him at the things he did so well: the easy drive-time talk, the brilliantly paced comedy shows that drew upon a lifetime's familiarity with the great radio comics, the laid-back interviews that could evoke spirited conversation from a statue.

Jack Carney had a golden touch, and it earned his employer, KMOX radio, millions and himself an annual income well into the six figures. "If Jack Carney said it was good, it was good," an advertising executive said, paying him the industry's ultimate compliment. It cost an advertiser plenty to have him read a commercial, but Mr. Carney's many thousands of listeners knew that he had actually eaten at the restaurant he was pitching — or had tried the leather polish or the coffee or the country-fresh sausage. Credibility was his greatest commercial asset.

Yet had he been only a gifted salesman, he would never have attracted so faithful and large a following. Jack Carney was a genuinely funny man with a sense of the absurd and a keen ability to see exotic possibilities in the ordinary, as when he brought a studio cleaning woman onto the air and turned her into a star. His death at 52, at the prime of his career, severs one of the last links that bound St. Louis to the classic age of radio.

Editor's Note: I did not know about Jack Carney until recently. I discovered him simply by looking for "Oldie's music" on YouTube. I found this audio file and during the commercials Saint Louis WIL is mentioned. I later discovered the DJ was Jack Carney. You can listen to these air recordings at: Back to the1950`s,Cars,Diners and Rock`n`Roll. Jack speaks between the songs. He even speaks about the contest where he will pick students up at school in a limo for one-week. He was a talented and well spoken individual for sure.

URL for the video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ta6OdjO84ZU



The radio from the television show "Gilligan's Island" was a Packard Bell Model #8RT2. The prop's department added a handle and a non working telescopic antenna. Notably, some show promotional pre-production stills illustrated a Magnavox Celestial Model FM-97. Regardless, watchers of the show will identify the Packard Bell as sometimes being white and sometimes beige in color.



Ownership of the radio varied based upon the season and episode. The Skipper owned the radio in some while Mr. Howell claimed ownership. The batteries, in one show, became depleted. The Skipper and The Professor created rechargeable batteries for the radio. The radio eventually met its demise when Gilligan knocked it off a table.







Question: *What occurrence is called by many to be, "The Great Tube Count Hoax"?*

Answer:

The Great Tube Hoax, discussed in this newsletter, was a period of time advertisements were made to entice a buyers with false exaggerated claims and statements. Perception was not reality.

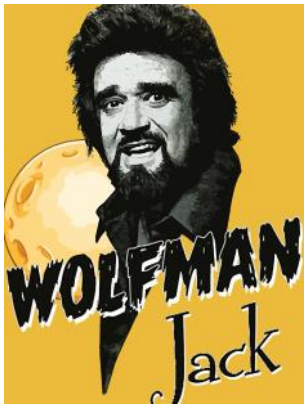
Question for the April Newsletter:

Whom was the individual that made a name for himself, starting at an age of 40, selling carpet vacuums. He had previously worked for RCA under David Sarnoff. While at RCA he spoke at congressional hearings that resulted in the color analog TV broadcast standards.

Radio Quote Of The Month:

"Radio is my passion. It allows me to connect with people all over the world."

-Robert Smith aka Wolfman Jack



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