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

# ARCH CLUB NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2026

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*Join us for our next meeting:*

**Tuesday**
**May 12th, 2026 at 7:30 PM**

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

## April Meeting Notes:

19 Members were present at the ARCH April meeting with one visitor!

Mr. Dave Bellman was the visitor. Mr. Bellman works at The *National Museum of Transportation* in Saint Louis. Mr. Bellman discussed that the museum has an exhibit of radios. If a club member would be willing to donate radio items to the museum, he and other would show and/or sell the item. Any funds raised when an items sells goes to the museum. Discussed previous gifts given to the museum. A donated diecast collection had brought several thousands of dollars for the museum.

Cookies brought in by a mysterious ARCH member were again enjoyed by everyone.

## Old & New Business

Joe got a call stating that club member "Jerry" was put in a nursing home. Family, friends, and neighbors are working to clean out his basement. Some odd radioactive items were found in the home. Notably, a roll of tungsten wire was found. (Tungsten is used within the cathode of a tube. When heated, electrons are emitted from the Tungsten element.) Jerry had apparently once tried to make his own vacuum tubes. Jerry's radio related items will be for sale in the future. Items from Jerry's estate will also be found on the clubs monthly raffle table.

Club member Fred is needing to part with radios, records, other amplifiers, and parts. Fred simply needs the room in his house. See Fred's "Show N' Tell" for items he has. He has more then shown here. He stated that he is really needing to get rid of the stuff for his health and family reasons.

*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*

## Event Announcements (Hamfest & Club Events)

# 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.




A vintage advertisement sign/mural in Litchfield, Illinois. These painted signs are also known as "Ghost Signs" as they remain long after the business has left. The store, House of Television, was apparently a dealer of Zenith's System 3 which was a line of TVs made starting in 1978. This product had a "computer brain" that provided electronic tunning and channel selection. Consoles with this system, would have had stereo speakers.

## Local and National Radio News—Kind of….

### Saint Louis First Voice Broadcast from WEW, occurred 125 years ago.

December 1, 1921, the Department of Commerce, which regulated radio at the time, adopted new guidelines that included what classifies as a true "broadcasting stations". Stations providing programs (weather and entertainment) intended for the general public were required to obtain a "Limited Commercial License" that included a broadcast service station assignment. Saint Louis University (SLU) was issued its first broadcasting station authorization on March 23, 1922. The university stated that radio broadcast had actually occurred as early as 1921 with broadcast consisting of weather information via Morse Code. The frequency was 619 kHz or, at the time, 485 meters. (the word "Meters" refers to the length of one wavelength.) The college earlier had the station callsign 9YK. The 1921 assigned broadcast license provided the callsign "WEW". WEW was the second Saint Louis station to receive a broadcasting authorization, following the Post-Dispatch's KSD (now KTRS), which had been licensed earlier the same month. However, WEW internal history includes the prior 9YK licensed morse code transmissions as part of its broadcasting prior radio history, but traditionally celebrates **April 26, 1921**, as its founding date. KSD would start broadcasting in May of 1922.

Notably, upon the start of the United Stated involvement in World War one, 380 military men were chosen to learn radio technology at SLU. The curriculum, dubbed "Radio and Buzzer School", was run by the War Department. Course work consisted of Morse code training and fundamentals of electricity.

What did the 1st true broadcast consist of on April 26th, 1921? Voice transmission! The broadcast occurred with SLU president Reverend William Robison making a statement on the radio outlining the weather forecast and a report on river water levels. These reports would continue to be announced twice a day. Later that year, livestock, grain, and market reports were added.

WEW introduced a number of innovative programs to keep listeners listening. Featuring discussions with fellow SLU faculty. Other programs included "Parents' Forum", the "Science Series", "Farm School", the "Amateur Radio Forum" and the "Editorial Page of the Air". It has also been suggested that the "Question Box Hour", a feature from 1923 described as "the first Catholic inquiry forum of the air", may qualify as the first radio quiz show. Notably, the station only operated during daylight hours. Shortly after 1949, the college wanted to exit the radio broadcasting market. The station was sold. The station, WEW, remerged as a country and western music station.

The station does bill itself as the 2nd oldest radio station in the US. This statement is considered to be questionable by many due to what others consider a "broadcast". The transmitter in Caseyville, IL, is a single tower visible from I-64. (Left side of the interstate while traveling East.) The station has been authorized to increase power if directional towers can be built. Directional antennas will permit interfering with WABC in New York.

*Editor's Note*: Many resources state WEW was assigned a random call sign. I must note the involvement of Mr. William E. Woods with the station. Was WEW assigned because of him? William E. Woods was the builder of the stations first transmitter. Mr. Woods had made broadcast with the transmitter in November 1920 announcing election results from his house. Notably, KDKA advertises itself as the 1st broadcast radio station. Why is this? Westinghouse owned KDKA. Westinghouse had a very strong public relations department that simply "wrote" the history books before anything could be contested. This historical event, after reading published resources, has many statements/claims that disagree with others. This disagreement is likely because so many "broadcast" stations were experimental and mostly hobbyist.

The callsign was never intended to mean "**W**e **E**nlighten the **W**orld". This slogan only came after the callsign was issued.

Question: What can WEW lay claim to without a doubt?
Answer: The first university radio station AND the first radio broadcast of a live quiz show.

## Local and National Radio News—Kind of…. (continued)

### St. Louis radio history gets added to the Library of Congress.

Hours of historic St. Louis radio broadcasts are being added to the Library of Congress thanks to the work of Frank Absher, executive director of the St. Louis Media History Foundation. Absher says that the broadcasts accepted by the federal archive include such nuggets as the KMOX broadcast of the end of Prohibition in April of 1933, recorded live from the Anheuser-Busch brewery and fed to the CBS Network, and Harry Caray covering the sale of the Cardinals on KXOK in 1947.

But it's not all seminal moments. Absher says the Library of Congress was interested in the snippets of day-to-day life that can be glimpsed in the recordings. "Their goal, from the Library of Congress perspective, is to get a good representation of what life was like, which has also been our goal," he says. "So if you listen to an aircheck from KXOK, top-40 radio in the 1960s, you will hear what they were talking about, what they were advertising, all that sort of stuff."

Absher, himself a former KMOX announcer, has been working to preserve St. Louis radio history since 1987. He's scoured the country for what are known as airchecks, gathering countless hours of local stations and DJs at work. A seed grant from the Missouri Humanities Council and matching private donations allowed him to digitize the recordings, which in many cases existed as electronic transcriptions, or ETs—discs that are 16 inches in diameter and need a special turntable to play.

Two years ago, Absher says, he made contact with staffers at the Library of Congress through a meeting of the National Radio Preservation Task Force. They were interested in his efforts, and agreed to accept a sample of his digital recordings. Now, he says, they've agreed those recordings passed muster, and he's been given the greenlight to send more. (He plans to also share the original ETs at some, point, too.)




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## Local and National Radio News—Kind of…. (continued)

### St. Louis radio history gets added to the Library of Congress. (Continued)

One benefit is that the federal library can preserve the files in a way that simply uploading them to the cloud will not. Another is that they can make them available to researchers interested in, say, the end of Prohibition or day to day life in St. Louis in the 1950s. Airchecks they've accepted include a recording of KSD's "Alpine Varieties," a weekly music program produced by Russ David and sponsored by Alpen Brau Beer, and KMOX's "Barnyard Follies," what Absher calls a "live hillbilly show" fed to the CBS Network from 1949–50.

Eventually, Absher hopes to make the recordings available on the St. Louis Media History Foundation's website as well. The biggest holdup has been the threat of music license services such as BMI or ASCAP coming after them for royalties. Absher has been working to pull out the music so the foundation won't be liable. "Our attorney said it's best, even though we're making no money on it, this is going to keep the wolf from the door," he says.

And in the meantime, he continues to avidly collect old recordings. When he first started, there were aircheck collectors who'd sell what they had accumulated as well as local DJs who donated recordings of their work. Now he's searching for—and getting—materials that are much more obscure. Like, say, that 1933 recording for Prohibition's repeal, which Absher describes as a surprisingly sedate affair.

"It was all scripted so no one would say anything that was not appropriate," he says. "You can hear the truck driver driving out with a beer, reading from the script, 'Oh, boy, oh boy!'" Now that moment is preserved in the Library of Congress. Oh boy!

—Published by Saint Louis Magazine

# Show and Tell - April 2026 Club Meeting

## Canio Vaccaro — Atwater Kent No. 4700—Model 10C



Canio procured this battery powered three dial radio 3 to 4 years ago. He has decided to finally restore it. This radio is shown fully restored. This radio is a standard TRF design. There is no neutralization of the tubes to reduce oscillation. Other methods were simply used to reduce tube oscillation.

Early versions of this radio used inductive tunning. Later version utilized capacitive based tunning. In the 10A version of the radio, the coils/inductors were aligned with each other. Cosmetically look "cleaned". Due to the coils "talking" to each other, the coils were positioned at perpendicular angles with one another. This position change reduced/eliminated crosstalk.

This 10 series is the combination/accumulation of ideas and lessons learned from prior builds. The radio, when introduce in 1924, cost $85.00. (Equivalent to $1,641 in 2026) The model 12 is electrically similar except it has an extra RF stage.

Canio expressed that when this radio was built, documentation was not always done. There are no documents that state "before serial number, use this schematic." One simply must understand 1920s radio theory to understand what the components are doing.

Canio removed all wires on the bottom of the breadboard. The wires were cut for some reason. Removed the staples holding wires and refinished the breadboard itself. Vinegar and salt were used to clean brass components. Atwater Ken was known to apply a crinkle (also called winkle) paint finish on the three tunning cans. Procured some Rustoleum Camouflage paint.





The heart of this radio is the TA unit. This assembly holds the three of the five 01A tubes and also two AF transformers encased in tar.

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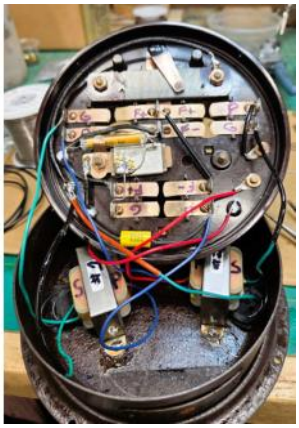
## Canio Vaccaro — Atwater Ken No. 4700—Model 10C (Continued)

How did Canio remove the tar from the AF assembly? He placed it in the freezer over night. With the tar frozen, it simply breaks apart due to being brittle. Canio discussed his ongoing restoration project of a Victor RE-45.

One notable action Canio discussed was the replacement of the wires. He desired to have a wire that looked like original wires. To obtain this look, he used a cloth 18 gauge covered wire. The cloth was spray painted with camouflage brown. This paint was then sprayed over with a semi gloss lacquer to simulate the original wire.

With reproduction manufacture warranty labels, this radio is truly "as good as new". Canio expressed he was grateful of club member Stan providing new dials.
The radio, when procured, simply had colored mismatch dials.





*TA unit show before and after. Two modern transformers are now in the base replacing the original transformers. New wires were installed due to original insulation falling part. A grid resistor was also replaced.*

## Bill Petty — Various plastic radios

Bill is a club member whom enjoys the cometic restoration of radios. Bill is truly the go to person for club members whom need advice related to cabinet repair and painting.

These are three radios he has in his collection. Each radio had cracks repaired and paint applied. Truly radios that any radio collector's wife would want in her kitchen.





## Ken Neiman — tinySA Spectrum Analyzer & Signal Generator

Ken exhibited his use of a PC based spectrum analyzer. Computer processing power is so advanced that many dedicated bench tools used by radio repair technicians can be replaced by one tool.

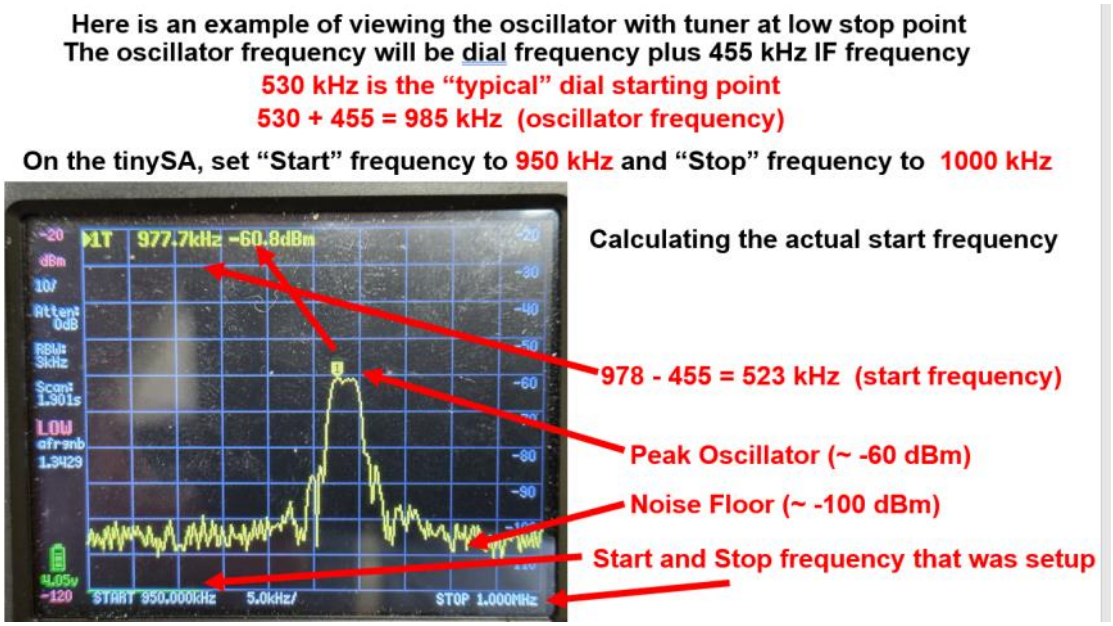
This tool, comes in different sizes. The color screen, notably, is touch sensitive.




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

The unit has two inputs. Ken also expressed a feature that makes this not just a spectrum analyzer but also a signal generator! When not used a spectrum analyzer both sine and square wave outputs can be generated at the two RF ports. (RF connectors are of SMA type.)

Ken exhibited and explained how this can be used with frequency alignment. The use of this device permits very accurate setting of the dial pointer.



## Ken Neiman—tinySA Spectrum Analyzer & Signal Generator (Continued)

While used as a signal generator, the ability to set frequency ranges for a sweep operation can be done!

The signal power levels are measured in dBm. Ken discussed how this logarithmic signal measurement operates. The ability to understand this type of measurement is needed. Ken concluded his presentation by illustrating that several different types of modulation can be generated. (None, AM, N.FM, W.FM, and External input.) When it comes to software, multiple different types of software based signal filters can be implemented.

Ken advised interested club members to look at the benefits of this device. He advised club members to also be on the lookout for counterfeit units.

Product URL: https://www.tinysa.org/wiki

A demo of it's live operation was to occur after the meeting. Another reason attending the meetings is beneficial!

## Fred Smith —Radio Collection For Sale

Fred created a presentation of the radio's he is ready to part with. Fred, a radio collector for decades, had the most fun when looking for a radio. The hunt is "addictive" as many club ,members know. Fred went through the below pictures outlining the features of each radio, the model number, and what he did to restore it. I did not write down everything Fred stated… but there are very nice radios and record players. Units from various manufactures, Grundig, Grunow, Victor, Philco, Zenith, TRF, etc were shown.
Fred's contact information is: (314)605-3122 and fatsatman@gmail.com



*Various TRF radios*



*Zenith 9-S-262*



*Philco table radio*

## Fred Smith —Radio Collection For Sale (Continued)












There is numerous power supplies, signal generators, VOM, Simpson meters, and other equipment also for sale. Fred has the full un-abridged volumes of the John F. Rider Perpetual Troubleshooter's Manuals. (Volume #1 thru #23) Stop buying poorly scanned schematics… buy the real thing! Fred expressed that no reasonable, will be refused… and unreasonable offers will likely not be refused also.

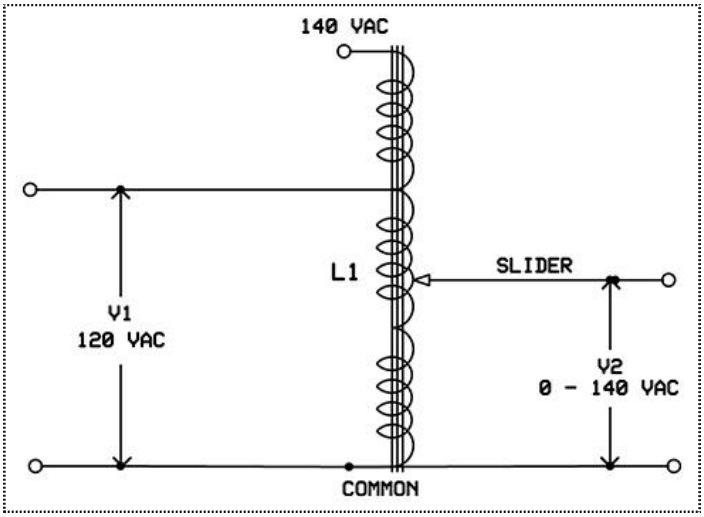
All the pictures Fred exhibited are not show here. Reach out to Fred and speak with him. If you desire to see the pictures presented e-mail me (Anthony) or Fred and the pictures will get sent to you.

## Dave Kunkle — AC Variacs

Dave discussed about the benefits and the assumptions many may have regarding this benchtop hardware. The Variac was introduced in 1933 by General Radio. The name "Variac" was a trademarked name but over time, this name has been applied to all types of these devices regardless of whom the manufacture is.

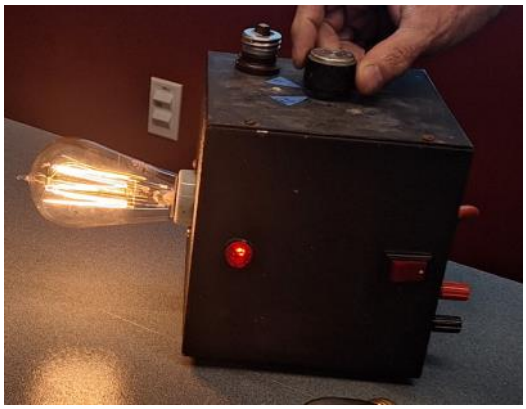
Any AC variac is really a variable AC auto transformer. The word "Auto" is Greek for "self". Where does "*auto*" come from? Normal transformers have a primary and a sperate secondary winding. The autotransformer has a single coil that serves as both the primary and secondary winding… hence the use of the word "auto".

Note: A Variac is not an isolation transformer. Look at the electrical node labeled "common" within this picture. This node can be energized depending upon the polarization of the plug. Any device plugged into a Variac should be treated as being "hot".




Any radio restore should consider an isolation transformer between AC power outlet and the Variac for safety reasons.

Dave brought an old neon lightbulb and also two different carbon filament lightbulbs. (Each bulb had an Edison base.) These bulbs, still working, are over 100 years old! One bulb had a coiled filament while the other had straight up & down filament.



## Salis Erns – 1940's Bakelite Pepsi Cola AM Radio



A 1940's (possibly 1947) AM radio made from bakelite. Manufactured by the Radio Display Company. The Radio Display Company, located in Chicago, IL, manufacture various bottle radios for different product manufactures for promotional material. Many collectors may recall Coke-Cola that had a similar bottle for sale in the 1920s. The Pepsi radio is unique as it incorporates the bottle's cap. The cap, on the top, is the radio's tunning dial. The speaker, at the base, projects sound downward. The knob on the base is the volume and power switch.

This was procured from Facebook Marketplace. The seller wanted $75.00 for the radio. The seller reported he was offered double, but stuck by his word and sold it for $75.00 to Salis. This radio is collected by both radio collectors and Pepsi collectors. The labels on this radio are worn, which is expected given it's age and fact the labels were paper based.

The radio is tall at 23 1/2 inches.




Stock image of Coca Cola's 1920's Bottle Radio




Stock image of a Pepsi-Cola 1940's Bottle Radio.
Note: The tunning dial (cap on top) is missing.

# April Raffle Table




The raffle table was full of goodies. Restored and unrestored radios. The Steinite TRF notably has all the manufacture documents/pamphlets. (Was found in an attic.) A 12–volt DC power supply, books, wire looms, and various books.

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

# Edger Bergen

Edgar Bergen was probably the only radio star who tried not to move his lips and who shared the limelight with wooden sidekicks (one of whom shared the title of his show).




A young Edgar Bergren and his dummy Charlie McCarthy. (Carlie is on the left.)

Born John Edgar Bergren in Chicago in 1903. John was an introvert and very private. Over time, this very private individual would use a dummy to have a very public life. While he was 11 the vaudeville staple of ventriloquism piqued his curiosity. He sent away for a 25-cent instruction manual, called "The Wizard's Manual", and found he could throw his voice. The famous ventriloquist Harry Lester discovered the teenager during a private performance. So impressed, he gave the teenager almost daily lessons for three months in the fundamentals of ventriloquism. While in high school he spent $35 (~$700.00 in 2026 dollars) to have a dummy head carved by a craftsman named Theodore Mack, working from a sketch of a newsboy Charlie had known as a child. Edgar created the body himself, using a nine-inch length of broomstick for the backbone, and rubber bands and cords to control the lower jaw mechanism of the mouth.

Out of that combination Charlie McCarthy was born. Bergen worked at amateur events in Chicago while studying pre-med at Northwestern, but never graduated, opting instead to try his luck in vaudeville. His first public performance was at Waveland Avenue Congregational Church located across the street from his home. After this performance, he cut out an "R" and a "G" from his family name and went from Berggren to Bergen on the showbills. He played clubs across the United States, then toured Europe and South America. On his return to America he shot a series of short films for Vitaphone between 1930 and 1935.

In 1936 he was hired to roast playwright Noel Coward at a party and Rudy Vallee was impressed. The popular singer made him a guest on Rudy Vallee's Royal Gelatin Hour on NBC. Bergen did so well that Vallee had him return for 13 weeks. By the next year Bergen had his own show on NBC, The Chase and Sanborn Hour on Sunday evenings. (In 1939, with a change of sponsor, came the change to The Edgar Bergen/Charlie McCarthy Show.) The show was packed with good actors, including Don Ameche, Dorothy Lamour, singer Nelson Eddy and other big name stars, some of whom often appeared for an entire season (W.C. Fields in 1937-38) or made frequent appearances (Bud Abbott and Lou Costello and Frances Langford).

Their initial appearance (December 17, 1936) was so successful that the following year they were given regular cast roles as part of The Chase and Sanborn Hour. Under various sponsors (and two different networks), they were on the air from May 9, 1937, to July 1, 1956. The popularity of a ventriloquist on radio, when one could see neither the dummies nor his skill, surprised and puzzled many critics, then and now. Even knowing that Bergen provided the voice, listeners perceived Charlie as a genuine person. In 1947, Sam Berman caricatured Bergen and McCarthy for the network's glossy promotional book, NBC Parade of Stars: As Heard Over Your Favorite NBC Station.

# Edger Bergen - (Continued)

Bergen was not a technically skilled ventriloquist, and Charlie McCarthy frequently twitted him for moving his lips. However, Bergen's sense of comedic timing was superb, and he handled Charlie's snappy dialog with aplomb. Bergen's wit in creating McCarthy's striking personality and that of his other characters was the making of the show. Bergen's popularity as a ventriloquist on radio, where the trick of "throwing his voice" was not visible, suggests his appeal was primarily the personality he applied to his characters. Regardless, the real star was Charlie, whose caustic comments often revealed what many people would like to say. Bergen played the straight man/stern father figure while Charlie was allowed to flirt shamelessly with all the reigning beauty queens of stage, screen and elsewhere. And Charlie's long running "feud" with W.C. Fields was famous, with Fields threatening to "cut you down into a pair of shoe trees" after Charlie made a crack about the comedian's drinking or the size of his nose.



The show's popularity rose steadily and remained constant. It was the top-rated show in 1937-40 and in 1942-43 and never fell below seventh between its debut in 1937 and 1952. The popularity had Bergen earning $10,000 a week at the show's peak, supplemented by more than $100,000 from sales of McCarthy toys and merchandise. In 1940 the show's format was changed from 1 hour to 30 minutes and the supporting actors were let go.

In their place Bergen introduced Mortimer Snerd, a dummy in both senses of the word. (Mortimer was slow-witted.) Other characters/dummies were added later. Such dummies including man-hungry spinter Effie Klinker. CBS lured Bergen away in 1949 and the show remained on the air until 1955. He tried television in 1956, hosting the game show Do You Trust Your Wife? on CBS for a year while also making numerous guest appearances on specials and variety shows. The man was truly a one-man show!

In mid-September 1978, Bergen announced his future retirement and sent his monocled, top-hatted partner, Charlie McCarthy, to the National Museum of American History at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C. (Notably, there is more than one Charlie McCarthy.) Others were provided to other museums including The Museum of Broadcast Communications in Chicago, Illinois. He opened for Andy Williams, the "King" of Christmas Music, at Caesar's Palace Hotel Las Vegas on September 27, for a two-week "Farewell to Show Business" engagement. Three days later, during the farewell engagement, September 30, 1978, he died of kidney disease.



Bergen's real child, daughter Candice Bergen, became a broadcasting star in her own right with the sitcom hit Murphy Brown on CBS from 1988-1998.

# Edger Bergen—Continued

**Candice discusses her father...**



Candice Bergen. Also referred to as, "Charlie McCarthy's little sister."

Edger put his dummy 1st in his life. In his will, according to Candice Bergen's memoir, A Fine Romance, he left his daughter nothing but bequeathed his dummy, Charlie McCarthy, $10,000. "I'd chased my father's approval all my life, and here was proof I'd never get it," the actress wrote. "I was hurt, shocked, when I discovered he had left me out of his will." She further explained that her father had provided this inheritance for the dummy so that the funds could be managed, invested, and reinvested to provide for his future performances. She said her father wrote in his will: "I make this provision for sentimental reasons, which to me are vital due to the association with Charlie McCarthy, who has been my constant companion and who has taken on the character of a real person and from whom I have never been separated even for a day." Throughout the book, she suggested that her father seemed to have a stronger kinship with Charlie than with her. The dummy "dominated" her childhood, she explained, and even had his own bedroom in their house. "Those were unique circumstances to grow up in," she wrote. "Sometimes I have to give myself credit for being a functional human being. I knew my father loved me, but with his Swedish reserve, it wasn't his nature to tell me."

Edger Bergen has three starts on the Hollywood walk of fame. The stars were awarded for his contributions to television, motion pictures, and radio.

## The Ending of The World?

*Charlie and Bergen* were programmed opposite *The Mercury Theatre on the Air* on CBS, a program helmed by Orson Welles. On October 30, 1938, many listeners were tuned into Bergen and McCarthy. At the start of Nelson Eddy's musical interlude, at 12 minutes into the show, listeners adjusted their dial. These listeners, intending to switch back for Charlie's next comedy spot, stumbled onto Welles' production of *The War of the Worlds*. The resulting historical panic then occurred. As later reported by noted critic Alexander Woollcott sent the young Welles a telegram on the subject: "This only goes to prove, my beamish boy, that the intelligent people were all listening to the dummy, and that all the dummies were listening to you." By 1944, Welles had become a recurring guest, with the dummy puncturing the pomposity of the genius.

## Interesting quotes involving Edger and Charlie:

**Charlie McCarthy:** I can't take this schoolwork any more - it's driving me nuts.
**Edgar Bergen:** Well Charlie, I'm sorry, but hard work never killed anyone.
**Charlie McCarthy**: Still, there's no use in taking chances.

"I was asking Charlie the most important questions, and you heard the answers!"

"Nobody seems to know yet how television is going to affect the radio, movies, love, housekeeping or the church, but it has definitely revived vaudeville."

"Puppets have no limitations; they allow us to express ourselves in ways that would otherwise be impossible."

"Well, a friend in need is a friend indeed."

# Unique Radios

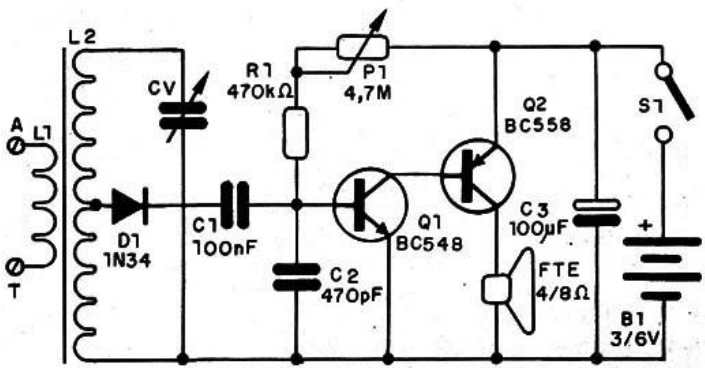
Two notable vintage transistor battery radios….



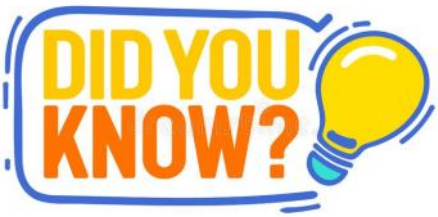

**Radio #1:**
This radio would likely not be allowed pass a TSA (or DHS) checkpoint. With the name, "*Dynamite* Clock Radio", This AM and FM Alarm clock radio would, it appears, be hard to also sleep through in the morning.

**Radio #2:**
I have seen a lot of transistor based AM receivers in the shape of Mickey Mouse. This one is unique, in my opinion, for how it was constructed. Model O15. Each ear contains a dial! Volume is on the left. AM frequency tunning is on the right. (Usually the dials are in one ear or the lower base.) This radio is also interesting because it states, "2 Transistor" on the bottom. One transistor demodulate and amplifies the AM signal. Schematics online illustrate this 2-transistor layout both with and without a diode.

Many cheap pocket radios in the 1960s employed this 2-transistor minimal circuit layout.








*Civilian radio manufacturing in the United States effectively stopped between approximately May 1942 and August 1945. This halt to radio manufacturing was due to the War Production Board prioritizing electronics for war/military usage.*

*Notably, the UK produced a war time era civilian receiver called "The Utility Set". These sets utilized a restricted established standardized design that offered no features. Over 40 manufactures built these radios with no name on the set. Only via the serial number could the manufacture discovered. The set did not have a band switch due to the silver contacts required within the wafer stages. These radios thus only received the commercial broadcast band. Tubes/Valves used in the radio had no manufacturing data and used generic tube numbering. A permanent magnet speaker was used to save the use of wire need within traditional electromagnet field coil speakers.*




***Question:*** *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.*

***Answer:***
David Oreck became well known selling vacuum cleaners and air purifiers that used his name.



*While employed at RCA for 17 years, he worked to market washing machines, microwave ovens, televisions, and also RCA's Videodisk system. In commercials for the RCA Videodisk, he refers to himself as "The RCA Man". Notably, utilizing direct mail, he taught both radio and television repair.*

*Oreck was asked to take over an RCA distributor in New Orleans, Louisiana. This distributor had the rights to an upright vacuum cleaner made by a company called Whirlpool. RCA had a large stock share of Whirlpool stock and was concerned the selling of a Whirlpool vacuum would compete against Sears, their largest customer, own line of vacuums named Kenmore. David left RCA when seeing a commercial mistake being made by RCA. Both David and his brother would go on into the vacuum business selling an 8-lb vacuum via direct mail order.*

*David met his first wife, one of two, Paula Sarnoff while working at RCA. She was the niece of President David Sarnoff.*

## *Question for the May ARCH Newsletter:*

*Mrs. Marion Stokes was afraid current history would try to be re-written in the future. As a result, Mrs. Stokes decided to perform an action to ensure history is never re-written. What was the action she took to ensure this?*

**Radio Quote Of The Month:**
***"Dog's do not listen to phonographs!"***

**-Thomas Edison's representative statement to Mr. Francis Barraud. Mr. Barraud was told this while trying to sell an image of his dog, Nipper, looking into a Edison-Bell cylinder phonograph. Mr. Barraud later sold the image to Gramphone Company with Nipper listening to a Berliner Disc Gramophone. The Jack Russell Terrier mix was named Nipper because he would "nip" at the legs of people.**



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