

# *ARCH CLUB NEWSLETTER*

**AUGUST 2025**

## **Special points of interest:**

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Old & New Business  
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*Join us for our next  
meeting:*

**September 9th, 2025  
At 6:30 PM**

*Maryland Heights  
Community Center  
300 McKelvey Road,  
Maryland Heights, MO  
63043*

*Meetings are temporarily  
being held at in Mary-  
land Heights Community  
Center while the Kirk-  
wood Community Center  
is being re-finished.*

## **Meeting Notes:**

15 Members were present at the ARCH August Meeting. 1 visitor, Bob P., was also in attendance

The ARCH Club meetings will return to the Kirkwood Community Center. First meeting at Kirkwood will be on Tuesday October 14th meeting.

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

Both Carl K. and Bill P. traveled to Elgin for the Antique Radio Club of

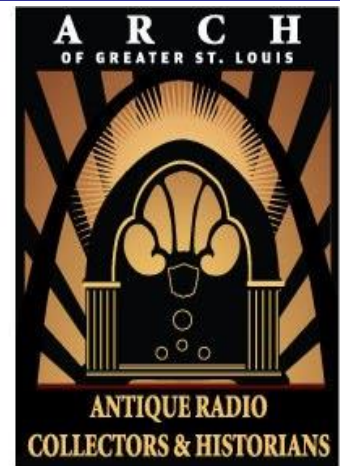
Illinois annual show. Bill spoke about his purchase of a Stewart Warner Quintuplet radio. Carl bought a RCA Strato-World multi-band radio and various "odds-n-ends". Both Bill and Carl applauded each other for keeping their purchases to a "restrained" quantity. A brief discussion occurred about the August 17th Wisconsin radio show and swap meet. This is the 2nd largest radio show within the US.

Bob P. (visitor) discussed his friend. His friend passed away and had a radio collection. His friend was a radio collector that concentrated on very early era coffin styled TRF radios. Members, via pictures, looked at the collection and found many radio's to be collectable and in good condition. There were several Zenith Transoceanic and several plastic and novelty radios also. Notably there was an unassembled crystal radio kit that was wrapped in newspaper from 1946. More information from Joe regarding a future house visit will occur.

## **Old & New Business**

The ARCH Fall picnic will be held at Bill Petty's home. Saturday September 27th at 10:00 AM. Additional information on Event Page of newsletter.

• *ARCH Members need to pay 2025 Club dues. Our bank account is being depleted... Please pay your yearly dues. If you never attend, please consider still paying to promote the club.*



### Event Announcements (Ham Fest & Club Events)

#### 32nd Halloween Hamfest

October 25th, 2025  
Kirkwood Community Center  
111 S. Geyer Road  
Kirkwood, MO  
8:00 AM—1:00 PM  
<https://halloweenhamfest.org>

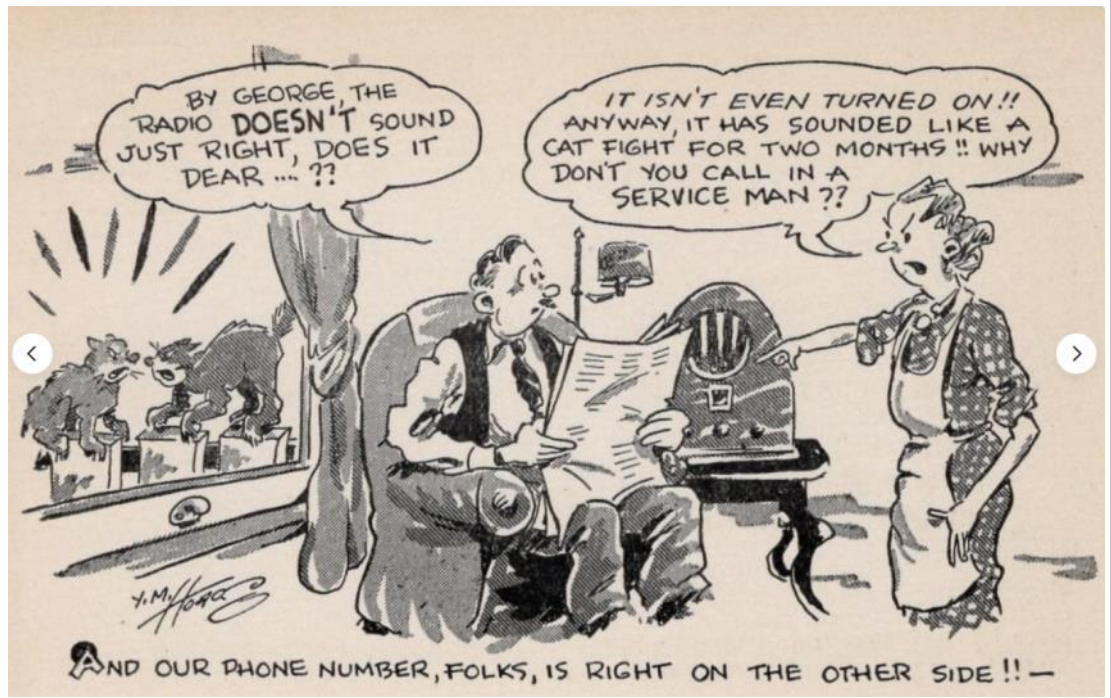


#### ARCH Fall Picnic

September 27th, 2025  
10:00 AM—?? PM  
Location: Home of club member Bill Petty  
#7 Hapsburg Court  
Imperial, MO 63502



This is a representation of a post card mailed to customers of radio repair shops.



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## Local and National Radio News

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### **KDHX Volunteers Plot FM Comeback In St. Louis After Station Sale**

In the wake of the headline-grabbing \$8.75 million sale at auction of community radio station KDHX, a collective of the station's fans and former volunteers has reaffirmed its dedication to reestablishing an independent music-formatted FM in St. Louis.

The League of Volunteer Enthusiasts, or LOVE, of KDHX released a statement outlining its intention to launch a new FM community radio station centered on cultural, musical, educational, and public affairs programming.



While acknowledging the challenges of time, funding, and infrastructure, LOVE emphasized that their long-term goal remains the creation of a volunteer-powered FM outlet designed to serve the city's diverse communities. "We remain committed to terrestrial FM radio because it provides the greatest access, exposure, and sound quality," the group stated, noting that the medium remains a vital foundation for community-building despite the growth of digital platforms.

LOVE also signaled plans to explore internet-based and digital tools alongside their FM ambitions, but made clear that over-the-air broadcasting is the priority, citing overwhelming community support for a return to traditional radio.

### **WKRP—Television Show (1978—1982)**

Mr. Loni Anderson, a film and television actress, passed away on August 3rd, 2025. She is well known for playing a receptionist on the CBS television show called WKRP. This television show was about the staff struggles and misadventures of a struggling fictional AM Radio station located in Cincinnati, Ohio. The show's characters were based upon a real radio station "WQXI, in Atlanta, GA. The show's creator had worked at WQXI. The show's creator stated in an interview the station's call sign, WKRP, was based upon the word "CRAP". (A joke for himself that passed the awareness of others.) The radio tower in the show was the Cincinnati WLWT transmission tower.

Was there ever a station with the call letters 'WKRP'? No, there was not. However, today a station does exist within Raleigh, North Carolina holding the call sign 'WKRP-LP'. This station is a local community Low Powered (LP) station that serves the local area with a signal of 100 watts.

## Show and Tell - August 2025 Club Meeting

### Carl Kleinsorge —1949 G-500 Zenith Trans-Oceanic (T/O)

Carl discussed this radio came in two different “flavors”. The 8-G0005, the 1st flavor, has eight loctal tubes providing push-pull audio amplification. Considered to be the “first” true Transoceanic. This G-500, the 2nd flavor, is almost the same but with mini-tubes instead and 3 less tubes. (Utilizes 5 tubes instead of 8 tubes.) A 3V4 tube provides Class A audio amplification. The G500 uses a 1L6 versus the later version known as the 1LA6 tube. Carl stated he built a converter which permits a 1LA6 (or a 1LC6) to work in place of the 1L6 tube. (Your can also procure this adapter online.) *Notably the “LA” in 1LA6 identifies it is a LoctAl tube design.*

Carl spoke how the brass round dial on these early radios are the most impressive of this radio lineup, in his opinion, found within the T/O lineup. The wave-magnet antenna in the prior versions of the T/O lineup was used for shortwave reception. The wave magnet antenna on this radio is tuned for AM broadcast signal reception.

This radio can be powered by AC or DC. A-Battery voltage is 9-volts. B-battery voltage is 90 volts. Carl disliked how Zenith went to a “battery pack” with this radio. Instead of replacing the A or B battery separately, the batteries were house within a “pack”. If one battery, specifically the B-battery, was still good, it still had to be replaced due to the dead accompanying A-battery.



Editor's Note: The black handle on top quickly permits an individual to tell a 8-G-005 from a G-500.

## Carl Kleinsorge — 1949 G-500 Zenith Trans-Oceanic (T/O) - Continued



The black Tolex exterior covering is in cosmetically perfect condition!



Just to the left of center, by the air tuning capacitor, you can see a loctal tube elevated above the chassis. This is a 1LA6 replacing the hard to obtain (and now expensive) 1L6. There is no battery pack within this radio. If there was, it would be present within the bottom shelf where the power cord is visible.

## Marlin Mackley - Oldsmobile 6-volt car radio

Marlin brought a unique automotive radio to the club! An early automotive radio. This radio has "Oldsmobile" on the main unit which also contains the speaker. The main unit is heavy due to an internal transformer and vibrator.

Marlin does not know what company made the radio for Oldsmobile. The name "Emerson" however does appear on the dial face. Marlin does know it requires DC power from a 6-volt source. Unsure if it is operational. Club member Carl K. stated it could be really a Delco radio made in Indiana.



The dial (bottom), would be mounted on the cars dash.

The speaker and radio components would be Mounted below the dash or at a different location within the vehicle. Marlin stated a cable, similar in style to a speedometer cable, would connect the circular numerical dial to the speaker unit. The dial would indicate the position of the variable air tuning capacitor. Electric wires would connect the volume control and on-off switch.



## Joe Tauser— Ongoing Zenith 10-Tube Chassis Shipping

Joe spoke about a radio he is restoring for an individual located within a different state. The customer shipped a 10-tube console radio chassis to him. Joe advised the owner should not ship the radio due to potential damage. The customer insisted he would pack and ship the chassis well protected. Upon the chassis arrival, Joe was impressed with the owners custom shipping container.

The owner had made a custom wood crate from plywood that anchored and protected the chassis and speaker. This custom crate was wrapped in bubble wrap and placed within a box. This owner did a great job!

What actions could have been done to improve the protection of the radio? Club members were surprised the tubes were shipped within their sockets. It would be ideal to remove the tubes from the sockets. Before removing tubes, one should mark/identify the tube's location. Many tubes have identification that worn off over the years and a tube may not be distinguishable from another. The tuning capacitor was also not closed before shipping. Protecting the metal fins by closing the tuning capacitor is always a good idea.



## Joe Tauser— Ongoing Jefferson Travis MR Restoration—Hinge Tape

Joe spoke about the cardboard based back found on many radios. The back of many radios, specifically portable radios, do not have metal hinges. The manufacture depends on the fabric covering to permit/provide a method of connection/holding a radio back on. Joe discovered the existence of "Hinge Tape". This cloth based tape is applied to the a radios body. The tape does an amazing job of securing the back of the radio and permitting future openings and closings of the back cover. The tape is cloth based and accepts paint well. One can paint or cover over the tape.

Joese spoke specifically about:  
"Bordart White Cloth Hinge Tape"

A roll of 25 feet is very reasonably priced at just a few dollars.



# Raffle Table

The raffle table was full of great things! Radios and several vintage electrical test components. Notably two Detrola receivers, in a metal housing, that could easily be restored. A Zenith Trans-Oceanic, a tube tester, and several Simpson analog Volt Meters that each appear to be in working condition. A magnifying light that clamps to a desk or table. A great item, that I have never seen on a raffle table before, was the wooden chassis holder.

Canio Vaccaro surprisingly placed his restored 1926 MIRACO Ultra 5 receiver on the raffle table. This receiver was shown to club members during the April 2025 meeting. Canio has simply procured another one. The newly procured radio has more and period era manufacture parts, specifically the power switch, than the one had previously. Needs to make room for the his new MIRACO Ultra 5. Great night to be attendance!



When a radio chassis is installed and anchored into this holder, the chassis can be rotated and flipped over quickly. Balancing a chassis on its side, like many of us do, is no longer required. The use of a chassis holder can greatly speed up any electrical restoration while also making it easier for the individual.

Check out [www.radiostands.com](http://www.radiostands.com)

# You Bet Your Life - Groucho Marx



*Editors Note: When I was more actively restoring radios, I enjoyed listening to You Bet Your Life. I was excited to eventually discover this was also a TV show. I also never understood why comedy glasses, with eye brows and a fake large nose, were called "Groucho glasses" until I started watching this show.*

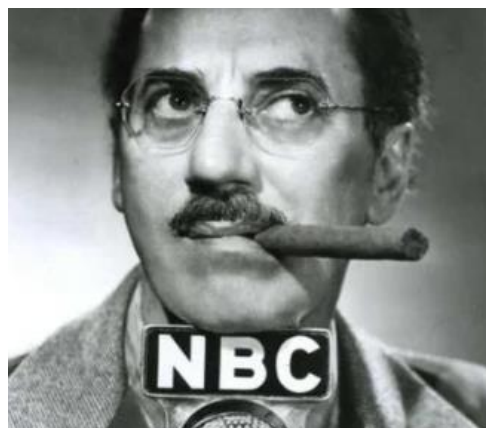
*Can you name all of the Marx brothers? I will post their names at the end of this article.*

The mid-1940s were a lull in Groucho Marx's career. His radio show Blue Ribbon Town, sponsored by Pabst Blue Ribbon beer, had begun in March 1943 and had failed to catch on. Groucho left the program in June 1944 and was replaced by vocalist Kenny Baker (who appeared with Groucho in 1939's *At the Circus*). The show ended two months later. Groucho also reluctantly appeared in two films with brothers Chico and Harpo Marx, *A Night in Casablanca* and the lackluster *Love Happy*.

During a radio appearance with Bob Hope in March 1947, Marx ad-libbed most of his performance after being forced to stand by in a waiting room for 40 minutes before going live on the air. The audience found Marx's ad libs very funny. John Guedel, the Hope program's producer, formed an idea for a quiz show and approached Marx about the subject.

After initial reluctance on Marx's part, Guedel was able to convince him to host the program once Marx realized the quiz would be only a backdrop for his contestant interviews and the storm of ad-libbing that they would elicit. Guedel also convinced Marx to invest in 50% of the show, in part by saying that he was "untouchable" at ad-libbing, but not at following a script.

As Marx and the contestants were ad-libbing, Guedel insisted that each show be filmed and edited before release to remove both the risqué and the less interesting material. The show for the studio audience ran longer than the broadcast version so some parts could be omitted.



On December 28, 1949, episode #49-13 was filmed as a visual test in preparation for the show to be broadcast on television. The president of Film Craft Productions, Regina Lindenbaum (who did the subsequent filming), cited it as the first television show filmed before a live audience. Most television histories incorrectly credit *I Love Lucy* with that achievement, but *Lucy* premiered a year after Groucho's first filmed season. While filming both shows did indeed allow for greater control in post-production editing, the principal reason they were filmed was so that they could be produced in Hollywood before the advent of the "coaxial cable" that allowed live coast-to-coast broadcasts. They also produced clearer images for the West Coast than the fuzzy kinescope recordings that dominated network programming there in television's early days.

*You Bet Your Life* was an American comedy quiz series that aired on both radio and television. The show debuted on ABC Radio on October 27, 1947, moved to CBS Radio debuting October 5, 1949, and went to NBC-TV and NBC Radio on October 4, 1950. Because of its simple format, it was possible to broadcast the show on both radio and television but not simultaneously. Many of the laughs on the television show were evoked by Groucho's facial reactions and other visual gimmicks, so the two versions were slightly different. The last episode in a radio format aired on June 10, 1960. The series continued on television for another year, recording the last season, beginning on September 22, 1960, with a new title, *The Groucho Show*.

# You Bet Your Life w/ Groucho Marx

The show was responsible for popularizing the phrases "Say the secret word and the duck will come down and give you fifty dollars", "Who's buried in Grant's Tomb?" and "What color is the White House?" (These questions were asked to reward a losing contestant a consolation prize).

The interviews were sometimes so memorable that the contestants became celebrities: "nature boy" health advocate Gypsy Boots; Mexican-American entertainer Pedro Gonzalez-Gonzalez; comedians Phyllis Diller and Ronnie Schell; author Ray Bradbury; virtuoso cellist Ennio Bolognini; blues singer and pianist Gladys Bentley; strongmen Jack LaLanne and Paul Anderson; and actor John Barbour all appeared as contestants while working on the fringes of the entertainment industry.

Harland Sanders, who talked about his "finger-lickin'" recipe for fried chicken that he parlayed into the Kentucky Fried Chicken chain of restaurants, once appeared as a contestant. Jayne Mansfield, Edith Head, Mickey Walker, Francis X. Bushman, Howard Hill, General Clarence A. Shoop, Louise Beavers, Irwin Allen, Frankie Avalon, Lord Buckley, Sammy Cahn, Ray Corrigan, Sam Coslow, Don Drysdale, Kenny Washington, Hoot Gibson, physicist and host of Exploring Albert Hibbs, Tor Johnson, Ward Kimball, Ernie Kovacs, Laura La Plante, Liberace, Joe Louis, Bob Mathias, Irish McCalla, screenwriter and author Mary Eunice McCarthy, Harry Ruby, Max Shulman, Fay Spain, Colonel John Paul Stapp, National Champion Football Coach Red Sanders, John Charles Thomas, Pinky Tomlin, Rocky Marciano and his mother, Charles Goren, and Johnny Weissmuller.

The Five Marx Brothers:

Chico Marx: Actor, Comedian and Pianist

Harpo Marx: Actor, Comedian, Mime Artist, and Harpist

Groucho Marx: Film, Television, Stage, Radio, and Music

Gummo Marx: Actor, Comedian but left the group to be a theatrical agent while also going into a business selling raincoats.

Zeppo Marx: Actor, Comedian, and engineer. Notably, his company designed and built the Marman clamps used to hold the atomic bombs inside the B-29 bombers Enola Gay and Bockscar.

## Radio Manufacture Advertising Slogans

Within the *April 2025 ARCH Newsletter*, there was a short discussion of radio jingles. There are many jingles for radio shows but what about radio manufacture jingles or slogans? Many manufactures had great slogans/jingles for their brand!

Below is a collection of radio manufacture slogans.... Maybe you would recognize a few...

ABC of radio satisfaction, The (Ray-O-Vac batteries), French Battery Co.  
 Air unlox to Magnavox (Magnavox Co.), Oakland, Calif.  
 Air-Way's best by any test (Air-Way Electric Appliance Co.).  
 All phonographs in one (Brunswick-Balke-Collender Co.).  
 All that is best in radio (Eagle Radio Co.), Newark, N. J.  
 Altwater Kent Radios—Always in Tune  
 Alone in tone (Magnavox), Receiving sets.  
 Always a year ahead (Zenith radio).  
 Always good company (Radio Industries Corp.).  
 America's most copied radio (Zenith).  
 America's smart set (Admiral), Radio-phonograph.  
 And when you listen you'll buy this Westinghouse (radio).  
 Arvin sets the pace, lead with Arvin (radio), Noblitt-Sparks.  
 As easy as listening (Cortinaphone), Cortina Academy of Languages (phonographs)  
 At the right of your dial (Station WKW), St. Louis  
 Beautiful beyond belief in tone and styling (Bendix Radio Division).  
 Behind the panels of better built sets (General Radio Corp.).  
 Believe your own ears (G. E. Radio)  
 Beautiful beyond belief in tone and styling (Bendix Radio Division).  
 Behind the panels of better built sets (General Radio Corp.).  
 Believe your own ears (G. E. Radio)  
 Not for just a year, but always (Stewart-Warner 1926 advertisement)

While the Silvertone radio brand was known for its quality and reliability, it didn't have a single official slogan or motto. It was primarily associated with the Sears catalog and their "radio worth more memories than dollars". The brand's reputation was built on providing affordable and accessible radio technology to the American public.

## Advertising Slogans (continued)

Best by test for high fidelity (phonograph needles).  
 Best in radio, The (American Bosch Co.).  
 The best in radio is better with a Bendix  
 The Best for the most for least. (Bendix)  
 Better, costs less (Crosley Radio Corp.).  
 Better results with less effort (Independent Radio Supply Co.).  
 Blue tube with the life-like tone, The (Arcturus Radio Tube Co.).  
 Bring 'em in dead, take 'em out alive (The Radio Hospital), Youngstown, Ohio.  
 Build that set on Kelbrackets (Kelleradio, Inc.), San Francisco.  
 Built like a fine watch (Lombardi Radio Mfg. Co.), Derby, Conn.  
 Built like a violin (Teletone radio speakers).  
 Cheney tone is nature's own, The (Cheney Talking Machine Co.).  
 Choice of noted music critics, The (All-American Radio Corp.).  
 Clear as a bell (Sonora Phonograph Sales Co., Inc.).  
 Clear to the ear (Magnavox Co.).  
 Comparison proves its superiority (Hallock & Watson Radio Corp.).  
 Costs more, but does more (Zenith Radio Corp.).  
 Covers the whole range (Sander loud speaker), Farrang Mfg. Co.  
 Dependable long life (radio tubes), Ken-Rad Corp.  
 Depend on Farnsworth for fidelity.  
 Dial of pleasure (North electric radio).  
 Distance without distortion (Perryman Electric Co.).  
 Electroneering is our business (Rauland), Radio—radar.  
 Emblem of worth in radio, The (Kodel Radio Corp.).  
 Every one a good one (Davidson Radio Corp.).  
 Everything for the radio man (Midwest Radio Co.).  
 Everything in music (radio), Grunewald's.  
 Excellence in electronics (Raytheon), Tubes.  
 Expanded coverage for E-X-P-A-N-D-I-N-G mid-America (Station KCMO).  
 Crosley Radio's core messaging focuses on the idea of "Amplifying Your Style.  
 You're There with a Crosley Radio.  
 Pick an Arvin for beauty... performance... and value (Arvin Radio Portable)  
 The Most Beautiful Radio Music Ever Known (Atwater Kent)  
 We're Playing your tune! (Emerson Radio)

## Wearable Novelty Radios - Man-from-Mars Radio Hat

*Sometimes an interesting novelty radio is one that literally sits on your head. It is comical how this radio was viewed by many as a silly invention and others as a luxury. Many “silly” inventions are unimportant to some and important to others. I recall the joke I would hear frequently in the 1980s... “That is as silly as a solar powered flashlight.” I understood the “joke” but thought, “That is a great idea!” Use solar panels to charge the battery of a flashlight. Notably today, solar powered flashlights can be found in many places as eco-friendly flashlights that may be found within. Next month, we will look at another novelty radio that you can also wear.*

*Several individuals had developed a radio that would fit within a hat. The most wildly known one sold under the name of “Man from Mars, Radio Hat”.*

In 1949, Victor Hoeflich held a press conference to introduce the “**Man from Mars, Radio Hat**”. Hoeflich knew a picture would tell the story so he had several teenagers modeling the radio hats for the reporters and photographers.

The hat contained a two tube radio while also serving as a prominent physical appearance of the hat. Another prominent aesthetic piece was the loop antenna located in the rear of the hat.

The hat sold via a mail order catalog, department stores, and even gas stations. A successful publicity campaign made it available at many local stores within the United States. In 1949, this hat could be found in stores for \$7.95.



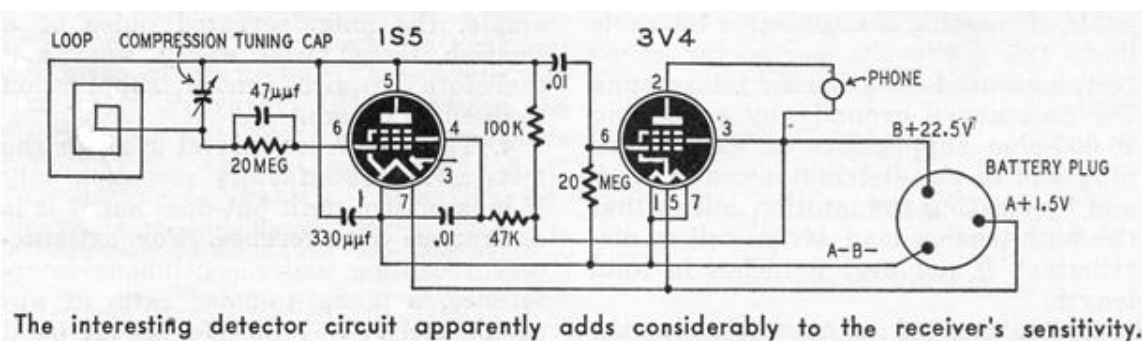
Hope Lan, at an age of 15 years old, became the most well known wearer of the Radio Hat. Hope would become a film, stage, and television actress.

## Novelty Radios - Man-from-Mars Radio Hat (Continued)

Pictures and news stories appeared in newspapers coast to coast announcing the hat. The articles typically included a photo of a young lady wearing the hat and a six-paragraph story. The radio hat also received widespread coverage in magazines. This included do-it-yourself magazines such as Popular Mechanics, Popular Science, Mechanix Illustrated, and Radio-Electronics. There was also coverage in general-audience magazines such as Life, Time, Newsweek, and The New Yorker.

The radio hat was sold in department stores and by mail order. A Van Nuys, California service station chain sold the hats as a promotion item to customers who purchased gasoline. The massive publicity did not lead to lasting sales. Advertisements for the radio hat stopped in early 1950. In a 1956 interview, Hoeflich said the company still got orders for the hat even though it was long out of production. Hugo Gernsback, the Editor of Radio-Electronics, was impressed with the radio hat. The June 1949 issue had a two-page article describing the circuitry and construction of the radio.

Radios at this time usually were powered by the AC mains. They used multiple vacuum tubes that had a 6 or 12 volt filament supply that heated the cathode; and a 100 to 300 volt anode (or B+) supply. The technological advances in World War II for mobile radios produced inexpensive low power vacuum tubes. The radio hat had an internal battery pack that provided 1.5 volts for the filaments and the 22.5 volt B+ supply. These were much safer voltages for use in a hat, especially since the full plate voltage is dropped across the earphone. This technique was commonly used in many simple radios, some having ninety or more volts present across the head or earphones. The battery pack would power the radio for up to 20 hours.



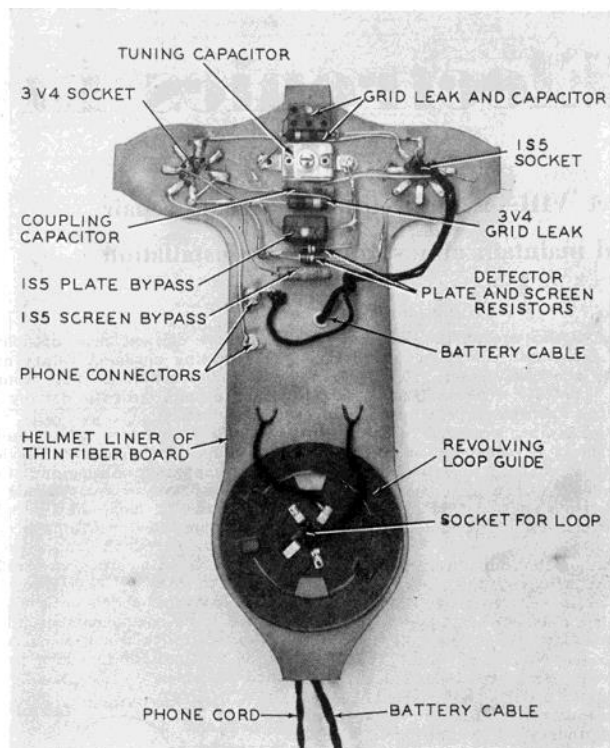
## Novelty Radios - Man-from-Mars Radio Hat (Continued)

The 1S5 tube functioned as a regenerative detector. Audio detected by the 1S5 was resistance-coupled to the 3V4, where it was amplified and supplied to the ear-phone.

The detector was provided with a cathode feedback level well into the oscillation range by the 330 pF capacitor. The received carrier blocked the oscillations, allowing strong local stations to be received clearly. In addition, the loop antenna was part of the resonant tuning circuit, resulting in near-unity coupling between the antenna and the detector, which helped provide a high enough level of carrier for the blocking function. A regenerative detector operated in this mode is sometimes called a super regenerative detector, but in this circuit there was no separate quenching oscillator. The blocking signal was ideally at the same frequency as the oscillation, as opposed to the usually lower frequency employed in a true super regenerative detector.

The regenerative detector in the radio hat had adequate sensitivity to receive stations much more distant than the stipulated twenty-mile range, but distant stations would not have had a strong enough carrier to block the oscillations and so would be received with an objectionable heterodyne audible as an astable squealing noise.

Furthermore, the loop antenna was somewhat directional. This was a limitation for a portable radio; the signal level could vary when the listener turned their head. If the target station was accidentally nulled, the carrier signal could fall below blocking level, resulting in an annoying squealing heterodyne similar to that present on stations outside the normal range of the radio.



This "chassis" is covered and shielded with foil-coated liner seen in photo at left.

## Novelty Radios - Man-from-Mars Radio Hat (Continued)

**HERE IT IS**  
THE AMAZING NEW  
**Man-from-Mars**  
**RADIO HAT**

**COMPLETE 2-TUBE RADIO BUILT INTO A HAT**

Here's the famous two-tube topper you've read about in LIFE, TIME, POPULAR SCIENCE, BUSINESS WEEK, and many other magazines and newspapers, coast-to-coast. Now, you too can own this wonderful "dream-come-true" radio hat. A perfect gift idea! Study these amazing features . . .

**\$7.95**  
plus fed. tax  
Complete with  
Battery Pack

- Covers entire broadcast band within 20 mile radius
- Set weighs 5 ozs., hat 7 ozs.
- Conceals in lining 1/4" thick
- Absolutely mobile . . . no extra aerial needed
- Volume and tone equal to many portables
- Regulation waterproof sun helmet . . . adjustable size, comes in many colors

At your local dealer, or fill out and mail coupon below:

AMERICAN MERRILEI • 918 Halsey St., B'klyn 33, N.Y.

Please send me  RADIO HATS

I'm enclosing \$8.65 (check or money order) for each hat. (\$7.95, plus 48c fed. tax, plus 22c postage)

Please send me more information about this new scientific marvel.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZONE \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_

P.S. 10-49



The radio hat show with the battery pack that resides on the wearer's belt.



Some radio hobbist and tinker's would build their own radio hats following design schematics within magazines.





Many locations did not have reliable A/C power when the All American 5 (AA-5) radio was developed. To combat this, radio sellers would rewire an AA-5 to have the tube heater voltages work from a 32-volt DC battery. At 32-DC volts, these radio were very weak with signal reception. Many owners would add a "B" battery to increase the plate voltage from 32 to 100+ volts for a higher plate voltage that increased signal sensitivity.



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**Question:** What difference exist between an All American 5 (AA-5) tube radio and an All American 6 (AA-6) tube radio?

**Answer:**

Every true "All American" radio consist of no power transformers. Tube heater voltages (in some configuration manner) add to equal the AC line voltage. (A droppage of AC line voltage employing a ballast tube or a cord dropping resistor is acceptable.) RCA, in 1939, established the first tube line up of a AA-5 consist of five separate tubes. Each tube performed the functions of Converter, IF Amplifier, Det/Pre-Amp, Audio Amplifier, and a Rectifier. An AA-6 will have one additional tube usually found within the Audio amplification stage. This extra tube provides better sound. Other AA-6 schematics instead have an extra tube within the RF (input) stage permitting better signal reception of weak signals. An AA-6 is overall a better radio than an AA-5, but at additional cost. Later designs had the rectifier tube replaced by a selenium rectifier with AA-5s becoming an AA-4.

**Question for the August Newsletter:** What does the call sign of an AM station inform you of?

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**Radio Quote Of The Month:**

"Radio was supposed to die in 1945, when TV came along. It turns out that radio grew and grew, and it's a bigger business today than it has ever been. - Alex Blumberg (radio journalist and TV producer

www.archradioclub.com

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*Antique Radios*  
Collected—Restored—Repaired  
For You or For Me

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Cell: 314.616.4294  
[donfergy@att.net](mailto:donfergy@att.net)



**Joe's Capacitor Stand**

- Metalized Polyester Axial Lead & Electrolytic Capacitors
- Custom Battery Eliminators
- Schematics—Riders & Sam's

**Joe Tauser (314) 616-0745**