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

ARCH CLUB NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026

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Join us for our next meeting:

Tuesday
July 14th, 2026 at 7:30 PM

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

June 2026 Meeting Notes:

17 members were present at the ARCH meeting. There were at least two (2) visitors in attendance.

Sue, a visitor, sadly experienced the passing of her mother. Sue showed pictures to the club of a mid 1950's console radio her mom owned. The console radio was a Magnavox Hi-Fidelity of a medium size. Club members discussed this console. The internal record player and AM/FM radio was prior to stereo sound being a feature within these stereos. Many members expressed that this console is popular today with younger generations. Club members did not seem interested in procuring the radio from Sue. A club member named Ed Muller may however be interested.

The 2nd visitor is interested in antique radios. Has a collection of radios that he now wants to restore. Came to the meeting to learn more.

Old & New Business

The club's spring picnic occurred on Saturday May 30 at Joe's place of business. All individuals, whom attended, enjoyed the event. There were deals made and many people were happy with the event. (Picture of event on Page #4.)

Joe will be sending an e-mail to club members regarding the selling/ procurement of small Crosley antique radios. Watch your e-mail!

Al, an ARCH Club member, has several antique fans. The antique fans will be given to an ARCH member whom is willing to restore the fan. Want to witness the fans go to a good home.

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 newsletter's last page.

Event Announcements (Hamfest & Club Events)

ZeroBeaters Hamfest

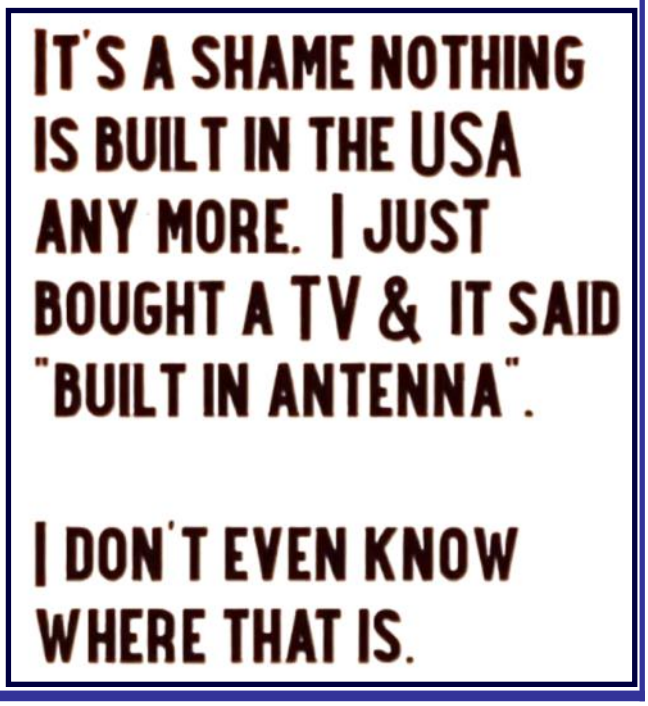
Date: July 19th, 2026
Location: Washington Knights of Columbus Hall
Address: 1121 Columbus Lane, Washington, MO 63090
Time: Setup at 5:00 AM. Doors open at 7:00 AM. Doors close at Noon
Website: http://zerobeaters.org
Note: Event will be held on the main level, not the lower level.
Admission is $7.00

Antique Radio Club Illinois—Radiofest Expo XLIII 2026
Date: Friday July 31st & Saturday August 1st, 2026
Location: Medinah Shriners Campus
Address: 550 N. Shriners Drive, Addison, IL 60101
Time: Various times of events throughout the day.
Website: www.antique-radios.org
Note: There will be auctions, Seminars, and swap meets.
Hotel accommodations are pre-arranged. Check out website.

Question: Can collecting radios become an addiction?

Answer: It depends on the frequency!





Local and National Radio News—Kind of….

Canada's (CHU) Time station— Going Off Air

As a child listening to Shortwave stations, I could receive WWV routinely from Boulder, Colorado. If I could hear WWV-H, WWV's time rebroadcast from Hawaii, the shortwave bands were really good for signal propagation. Another good test of shortwave propagation capability was the reception of Canada's own time signal station. Canada's station was called CHU. CHU is operated by Canada's National Research Council.

The roots of CHU stretch all the way back to the early 1920s. Experimental Canadian time broadcasts began in 1923 under the callsign 9CC before evolving into VE9OB and eventually CHU in 1938. Over the decades, the Canadian government took multiple steps to improve the signal and the time references.

The station will go dark on June 22nd, 2026 on 3,330 kHz, 7,859 kHz, and 14,670 kHz. Canada's CHU station will issue QSL card's to Shortwave listeners whom submit a signal reception report. Consider attempting to request a QSL card before the station finally goes dark. You can request a card via postal mail or e-mail.



Germany notably ended their time signal broadcast on December 31st, 2025. German listeners must utilize other European time broadcast. I hope WWV, founded in 1919, remains on the air for many more years. I have both clocks and a watch that depend upon WWV's time signal.

CBS NEWS RADIO

Listening to WCBS New Radio 880 was a nightly thing for me growing up in West Virginia. This clear channel station would broadcast interesting news stories continually. New York City (NYC) Traffic reports were also interesting.

In August 2024, the all news AM radio format, that operated for almost 60 years on Broadcast AM, moved from 880 AM to 92.3 FM. The Clear Channel 880 AM frequency became WHSQ, a sports radio station owned by ESPN.

CBS News Radio, starting in September 1927, was the gold standard for many other radio stations to aim toward. Edward R. Murrow's London rooftop broadcast were significant during WWII. Walter Cronkite's daily war reports were heard by the nation. FDR's fireside chats were heard by listeners alive during the Great Depression. CBS News continually provided news reports to 700 affiliates until the service was recently disbanded. World News Roundup was the longest-running newscast in the country. This news service became deaf on May 22, 2026. The owner's reported reason is attributed to individuals today receiving their news via different means and podcast. (Taking the time to listen to a news broadcast is simply to time consuming for many I guess.) A form of WCBS news radio format will be continued on WABC's Worldwide News Network (WNN).

Club Spring Picnic

The club picnic was a lot of fun for all attendants.



Question: When does an ARCH Club member not talk about radios?
Answer: When his/her mouth is full of food.

Show and Tell - June 2026 Club Meeting

Vernon Roberts — 1935 (or 1936) RCA T8-18

Vernon purchased this 3-band 8-tube RCA radio off the back of Dave Kunkle's truck (literally) while at Bill Petty's home attending a past club picnic. Vernon electrically restored the radio. (Notably, the 6E5 eye tube is counted within the 8-tube count.) Vern is amazed how great this radio sounds! The large speaker really makes it sound good. Vern installed an incorrect, but good looking, grill cloth on the radio due to the original being in poor condition. The radio, as it sits today, is not cosmetically finished. Vern had stripped the original stain/finish but did not apply a new finish.



The radio only needs is a new dial (plastic) glass, but the original is in acceptable condition but has yellowed.

Vernon stated that this radio needs to go to a good home… but not his home. He placed it on the club's raffle table.

The three bands consist of the AM Broadcast band and two shortwave bands.



This radio looks great even without a finish!

Joe Tauser — 1940's Philco 6 Tube AM radio—Model #40-120

Joe, being the ARCH Club president, interacts with a lot of people. While speaking with Kirkwood Community Center staff, Joe showed pictures of radios in his office. An employee named Charles, expressed interest in owning an antique radio. Joe stated he would get him one.

Joe stated he "lightly" cosmetically refinished the radio. A prior owner glued a piece of paper on the top listing all local AM radio stations. Joe had to carefully use a plastic razor to scrape away the paper and glue. This was an action that was not immediate nor quick. Joe did not refinish the radio due to the radio's front. The front of the radio is not comprised of a wood veneer. The front is really a decal. The front is in fact a photo finish that many collectors refer to as a "*pho-finish*". This is simply the printing of a wood grain onto paper or film based material. This is applied to the wood in a manner similar to veneer.

The cosmetic restoration was small compared to the electrical restoration. The wires in the radio were rubber based. The insulation, after many decades, fell apart upon being disturbed/touched. The coils and tunning caps were physically placed on top of each other. Joe spent two evenings working on his internal motivation to restore this radio. He knew the work necessary to remove/separate the coils would be a nerve whacking experience, and it was. This radio used solid wires. Joe expressed that period consoles of the same era had used stranded wires. A short discussion about the merits of solid versus stranded occurred among Joe and other club members. (The preference of wire types is different amount all club members.)

Joe was impressed by the RF amplifier design of this radio. The design really works! He was able to receive KMOX on this radio where many other radios fail while on his bench. Joe also discussed how this radio was impressive as the internal wire antenna is notably formed around a wooden frame.

Joe was looking at the radio one day and the handle really stood out. Specifically, how the handle on the top was constructed. He discovered a brass trim piece was placed inside the handle. The brass had tarnished to the same color as the surrounding wood finish. This was a surprise for Joe. Joe used the Mohawk product called, "Lacquer for Brass" made the brass shine! Joe then sprayed Mohawk Semi-gloss onto the radio cabinet He was very happy with the results.



NOTE: Joe procured the mentioned Mohawk products from Flanagan's Paint & Supply on Watson Road located within the Yorkshire Shopping Center.

NEXT PAGE

Joe Tauser — 1940's Philco 6 Tube AM radio—Model #40-120 (continued)

The radio's internal antenna. Notice the antenna is wrapped not around cardboard but a wooden frame comprised of pieces of wood.



This brass strip had turned the same color, over time, to the same brown color that is on the edges.





Charles, while working the front desk, holding his new radio.

Canio Vaccaro — 1928 Brunswick 5KR with a Markel Speaker Stand



The Brunswick 5KR sitting on top of the Markel Model 'A' speaker stand.

Canio procured this radio and matching stand from Club Member Fred Smith's recent radio sale.

Canio was really happy about owning a Brunswick radio. This radio is a version of RCA's (more popular) Radiola 18. The Brunswick radio was sold in 1928 and sold for $115.00. ($150.00 is equivalent to $2,340.00 in 2026 dollars.) The Brunswick version had the same electrical build and components as RCA's Radiola 18. The only difference is the wood case, finish, and the escutcheons. This, like the Radiola 18, is a TRF radio with three tuned AM circuits. The Brunswick radio company ceased operation in 1932.

This was one of the more vocally "energetic" radio demonstrations. Canio would discuss issues he encountered. As Canio would express the issue, Fred would verbally yell out, "For what you paid for it; what did you expect?!?" (This happened on more than one occasion to the enjoyment of all members in attendance.)

Canio did admit Fred electrically restored the radio and sold it in working condition. Canio, the type of radio fanatic he is, stated he wanted to see a period era restoration. Canio took the actions for this high level of detail. Canio installed cloth wiring in the chassis and also period correct tensile wire. (Tensile wire is a very fine wire notably difficult to deal with.)



Brunswick 5KR after restoration



NEXT PAGE

Canio Vaccaro — 1928 Brunswick 5KR with a Markel Speaker Stand (continued)

Canio discussed the stand next. Markel built the stand to match up with period radios. After the 1930s, Markel pivoted away from radio related products to architectural lightning fixtures and space heaters. This company did manufacture many visually appealing products in the 1930s and continues to do so today.



Two versions/models of the stand existed between 1928 and 1930.
1.) Model A — *Conventional*
2.) Model B — *Heraldic*

The stand pictured here is the Model 'A' stand. Markel acquired speakers from major era manufactures and integrated the speaker into the stand.

The stand's original speaker was replaced at some point. A permanent magnet speaker and transformer exist within the stand today.

Canio replaced the speaker wire with reproduction tinsel speaker wire.



Front of the speaker stand

Notice the stained glass in the middle of the stand. Attention to detail!



Side view of the stand

June Raffle Table

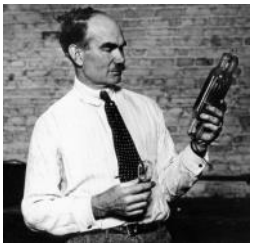


Other items consisted of…
-Two Cobra battery family 2-way radios
-A NOAA Weather monitor/receiver
-Several pocket transistor AM radios
-A tube AM radio in a cathedral wooden case.
-A very old speaker in a pot-metal speaker housing.

The June raffle table was full of goodies! Radios, walkie talkies, and test equipment. One of the better auction tables!

Father's Day

When reading about individuals, I hear many individuals called… "The father of…." Since the month of June contains a day known as "Father's Day", I thought it would be neat to put together a list of "Fathers" whom are related to radio/tv. How many of these "Fathers" do you know?



Lee de Forest: Widely recognized as the "Father of Radio" due to his pioneering work in radio technology, particularly his invention of the Audion vacuum tube, which enabled live radio broadcasting. Other titles he has is the "Grandfather of Television," the man who created live radio broadcasting,



Sir John Ambrose Fleming: Father of the Vacuum Tube. Developed the first practical thermionic diode, which was the first type of vacuum tube.

Philo Taylor Farnsworth: Father of Television. Granted the 1st patent for the television when 21 years old. Invented a video camera tube and the image dissector. (Image dissector is an advanced video camera tube that converted an image into an electronic signal.) These image dissector tubes fell out of use but were used in early weather satellites and on the lunar lander. These tubes do not suffer a "flare" when looking at intensely illuminated objects.



Pat Weaver: An American broadcasting executive who was president of NBC between 1953 and 1955. He has been credited with reshaping the form of broadcasting when television started to replace radio.



William S. Paley:
The Father of CBS. Paley founded the company in 1927. Paley played a crucial role in transforming CBS into a major media powerhouse, significantly influencing the broadcast media. Pioneered the advertiser-sponsored model.
Founded the Museum of Broadcasting.



Ernst Chladni: Often referred to as the Father of Acoustics due to his groundbreaking experiments in the study of sound waves. He is known for his work on Chladni figures, which are visual representations of vibration patterns on a vibrating plate.



Édouard-Léon Scott de Martinville:
The Father of Recorded Sound is Édouard-Léon Scott de Martinville, who invented the phonautograph in 1857. This was the first device capable of recording sound waves. However sound was unable to be played back. Thomas Edison is credited with developing the phonograph in 1877, which was the first machine to both record and also playback recordings.

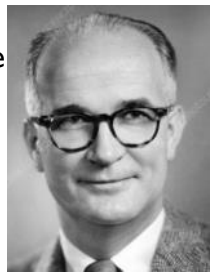


Father's Day (Continued)

Guillermo González Camarena: The Father of Color Television is Guillermo González Camarena, a Mexican engineer who invented the first *Trichromatic Field Sequential System* for color television. He developed a color system using three lenses—red, green, and blue—patented in 1942, which allowed black-and-white televisions to be adapted to color. Despite his pioneering work, he was ultimately beaten by John Logie Baird, who demonstrated the first electronic color television in 1944.



William Shockley Jr: An American physicist, engineer, and inventor who led the Bell Telephone Laboratory research team credited with developing the point contact transistor in 1947. Known as the Father of the Transistor. He was the manager of the research group that invented the transistor after performing research on semiconductor materials. Shockley shared the 1956 Nobel Prize in Physics with the two other team members.

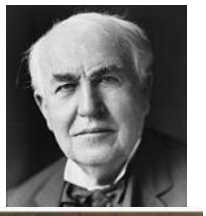


Michael Faraday: Father of Electricity. Invented the first generator, first DC motor, and transformer. Wrote in 1831 "Faraday's Law of Induction".



Lord "God" Almighty: Father of Light. (*Picture unavailable)*

Thomas Edison: Father of the Lightbulb and DC electric power.



Alessandro Volta: Italian physicist and chemist. Invented the first true electric battery in 1800 known as the "Voltaic Pile".



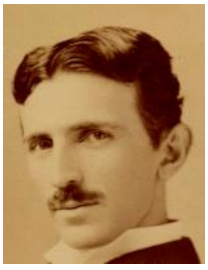
Guglielmo Marconi: An Italian whom developed the first practical radio signaling system. Laid the foundation for modern radio. Made the first transoceanic transmission in 1901. His appearance in the press is notable as he introduced radio operation to many. Father of Radio.





Reginald Fessenden: Also credited as being the Father of *Modern* Radio. Fessenden did pioneering work in wireless communication. His work permitted the transmission of the human voice compared to the earlier transmission which consisted of only signaling formats. (Invented Amplitude Modulation)

Nikola Tesla: Tesla had wireless patents that were oriented more to the "remote control" of devices. Tesla made significant contributions to radio technology. Tesla is awarded the title of "Father of AC Electricity" or "Father of Energy".



Unique Radios

1970 Panasonic R-70 Panapet "ball and chain" radio….

This transistor AM only radio was introduced to commemorate the World Expo occurring in Osaka, Japan. The radio has two chrome dials that are for tunning and volume control. Powered by a 9-volt battery. Later versions were made that provided both FM and AM signal reception. Later version used two 1.5-volt batteries instead of a 9-volt.

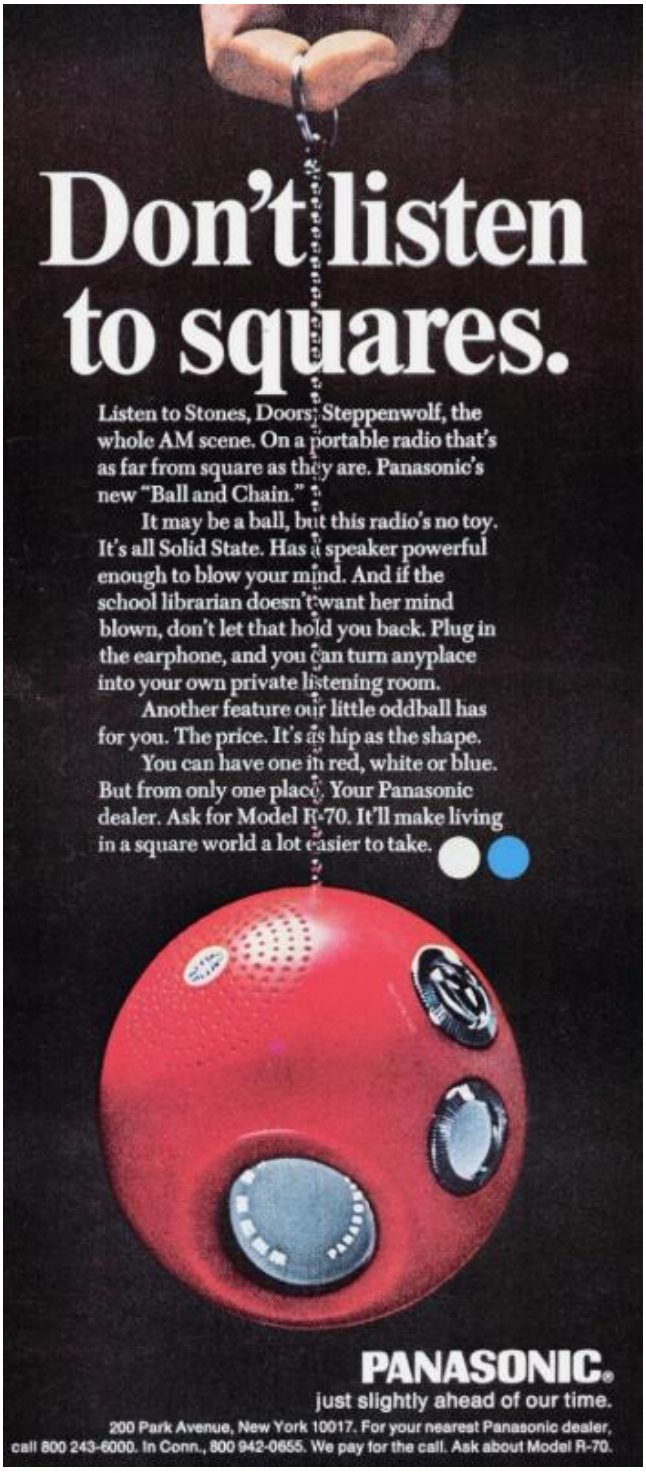
Sold in red, yellow, white, blue, purple, and avocado green.

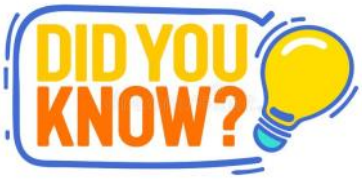
Notably, the Soviet Union copied the radio and called their version "Saratov" after the town it was made in.

Panasonic called the radio "National Expo-Kapsel R-70" in the German market.

Editor's note: I am unsure why these radio's command such a high value today. I had one while a child given to me by someone. It did not work well at receiving signals. The sound was also not loud. I remember swinging it around with the chain. I do not recall what happened to the radio…. I am sure many of these radios met their demise when the chain broke while being swung.







In 1926 a British individual named John Logie Baird transmitted wirelessly the first black and white still images of his assistant, William Taynton. In 1928, he transmitted a still color image of a basket of strawberries. In 1938 he demonstrated the world's first color motion TV transmission. Colored spinning disc permitted the transmission and display of live motion pictures of a little girl wearing different colored hats. The girl, Noele Gordon, later became a British television actress. Noele was chosen for her blue eyes, fair skin, and very dark hair color. She played the role of Meg Mortimer on the British soap opera Crossroads from 1964—1981. Noele had eventually become UK's most popular TV actress.







Question: Whose voice was on the 1st voice transmission to be heard from a spacecraft? What year did this occur? Hint, Sputnik was launched in 1957 followed by USA's *Explorer 1* satellite in 1958.

Answer:

The US Army launched their project Signal Communications by Orbiting Relay Equipment (SCORE) satellite December 18th, 1958. The satellite contained a tape recorder with pre-recorded message from an Army General. After a very secretive and (somewhat) successful launch into low-earth orbit, President Eisenhower stated he wanted to make a broadcast to the people. During the satellite's orbit, President Eisenhower's speech was transmitted to the satellite. The newly recorded message was rebroadcasted on December 19th, 1958, during subsequent orbits, from the satellite via shortwave radio frequencies. More people heard the broadcast being replayed via TV and news stations than the actual broadcast itself. Using only battery power, the satellite operated for just 8 hours before burning up 35 days later. President Dwight Eisenhower was the 1st voice to be heard from a artificial satellite.

Question for the July ARCH Newsletter:

What animal mascot has been used for two different battery manufactures at the same time?

Radio Quote Of The Month:

"I have the perfect face for radio." - Virginia Graham



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