



Let's talk Philco, nay maybe someday. My model 70

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○ 2018



Another Lone Ranger radio



David Wilsons working miniature Emerson 544 design radio



2A3

NEW MEXICO

RADIO COLLECTORS CLUB

Next NMRCC Meeting September 9th One-tube radios

Though the exact date of the first Lone Ranger broadcast is often debated, it has been widely accepted that Jan. 30, 1933, marked the first time the masked man sprang into action. We acknowledge Feb. 2, 1933, as the date of the first official broadcast

THE LONE RANGER RADIO RIDES AGAIN! By David Wilson

Part one

One of my early radio acquisitions was a 1938 Majestic Charlie McCarthy novelty radio. These cute little radios were featured in the Philip Collins book "The Golden Age of Radio." This great book featured other interesting Catalin, Bakelite and unique novelty radios including the Majestic/Airline Rudolph The Red Nosed Reindeer and the Lone Ranger. Both of these radios were built using the same cabinet design used for the Majestic Charlie McCarthy and where produced after World War II.

At our club Christmas party last year, we had an auction on Mark Toppo's patio. Many of the items in the auction were donations from former KOB engineer Mike Langner's radio collection. Among the radio items donated was a 1951 Majestic Lone Ranger radio with a nice Lone Ranger plastic emblem on it. The cabinet was severely damaged on one side, with four of the Bakelite louvers missing and long cracks running along both sides and across part of the front of the radio.

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1951 Majestic Model 104 Lone Ranger radio purchased for \$14.

Product Review: WD-40 Specialist, Electrical Contact Cleaner Spray

This product is advertised as a cleaner for sensitive electronic and electrical equipment for use on printed circuit boards, controls, switches, tape heads and precision instruments. It contains hexane, difluoroethane and alcohol and is supposed to be safe for all plastics, rubber and metals; this may not be correct as this cleaner is extremely flammable.

I wanted to find a cleaner for controls and switches that left no residue as this can lead to problems in high impedance circuits. Tube tester leakage/short circuits can be rendered useless with a few megohms resistance through contaminated contacts. Many cleaners today have a lubricant that can trap carbon and dirt and then

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The NMRCC Report: Meeting August 12th 2018

We had a large volume of donation items at this month's pre-meeting auction which included several nice items. In addition, three non-members, who contacted us through our web site, brought in some nice radio-related equipment to sell in our auction.

The actual club meeting was late in starting due to the large auction, and President David Wilson suggested we skip our normal 2-minute round robin, which we did. There were 20 members present including new member Randy Gray.

The monthly theme was Wild Card Sunday. John Hannahs did a presentation on his recent vacation in Ireland which included the Hardy Gundy Museum that had lots of radios and ham equipment. Richard Majestic did a technical presentation on how crystal radios work. David Wilson did a presentation on the American industrial designer Norman Bel Geddes who did design work in many areas including radio cabinets. One of his designs was the Emerson Patriot. David brought in a Geddes designed Emerson radio with its original box. Steve Shepard brought in a variety of items that included a talking meter, a yo-deling pickle, several mini torches, a high voltage exciter for neon lights, a flash tube, a tube-based op-amp from an analog computer and a necklace Steve built from a variety of church keys he had collected. Don Menning brought in a recent birthday present which was a low-burn torch used for cleaning up laser-cut acrylics. Mark Toppo discussed his restoration of a Aristocrat radio/record player he bought at a recent club auction. It is extremely rare and has complicated mechanisms to allow users to select the number of records to play and afterwards the record will be lifted up and the radio optionally turned on. Tony Marshall showed his restored Bing Crosby Philco 48-1201 radio-record player and demonstrated its operation. John Anthes discussed his recent trip to the MARC (Michigan Antique Radio Club) radio meeting where he sold \$660 worth of radios. John is a first generation laser jock and worked in the weapons area at Sandia National Lab. He discussed and showed a laser diode optical isolated detector he designed in the late 1980s. Robert Gibson showed an image dissector which is sometimes called the Farnsworth Tube as it was used by Philo Farnsworth in his design of the first all-electronic television prototype. Voting for best of show was competitive with the first round being a 3-way tie. The second run-off voting selected Steve Shepard as Best of Show.

On Old Business, the Duke City Hamfest

will be September 21-23, and the club plans to have two spots where club members can sell stuff. Club member Jim Hanlon plans to give two talks on the history of amateur radio. Richard Majestic reported we have approval by New Mexico State University for installing a plaque honoring radio pioneer Ralph Goddard. The plaque will be bronze, 16 by 16 inches in size, cost around \$500, and installed in the area where the original KOB radio station started. The fall picnic will be Saturday October 13th starting with a visit at noon at the War Eagles Museum (located at 8012 Airport Rd., Santa Teresa, NM). After our tour of the planes, cars and radios, we will have lunch at 3PM at the Great American Steakhouse (located right off I10 at 600 Valley Chili Rd. Anthony NM). The club will pay for the museum admission and the lunch. After eating, club members are invited to either David Wilson's and/or Richard Majestic's house for a quick tour of their recent radio acquisitions.

On new business, we had a discussion of YouTube videos, like DLab and Uncle Doug, that provide information on repairing electronic equipment and the fact that users must be aware that some videos are not completely accurate. The meeting adjourned around 3:30.

~Chuck Burch



NMRCC 2018 MEETING DATES

- January 14th** Old loudspeakers and microphones
- February 11th** Pre-1930 radios
- March 11th** Early FM Stereo receivers, amplifiers, and other vintage audio equipment
- April 15th** Homebuilt crystal, tube, and transistor sets
- May 20th** National Museum of Nuclear Science & History
- June 10th** Atwater Kent tube radio sets
- July 8th** Store-branded radio sets (Airline, Trutone, Airchief, Silvertone and etc)
- August 12th** Wild Card Sunday
- September 9th** One-tube radios
- October 13th** War Eagles Aviation Museum and lunch at GALC Steak House
- November 11th** Old test equipment, tube testers, RF signal generators, oscilloscopes, bridges, meters and etc
- December 9th** Holiday Party



NMRCC Officers for 2018

- *David Wilson: President*
- *Mark Toppo: Vice President*
- *Richard Majestic: Treasurer*
- *Secretary: Chuck Burch*
- *Membership: John Anthes*
- *Ron Monty Director*
- *Ray Trujillo Director*
- *Open - Director*
- *Richard Majestic: Newsletter Editor (President pro-tem)*

The President's Column



At our August club meeting we were excited to have new member Randy Gray join our club, Randy is a radio collector who moved here from Portland, Oregon. He's another new member who found us through our NMRCC website [<http://newmexicoradiocollectorsclub.com/>]. In July we had a new visitor Dave Siler who heard member Les Davidson discuss our radio club on a KKOB radio talk show. New membership is our club's life's blood and it's great to see new faces this year!

As we head into the fall, our club's focus will be on our participation in the Duke City Hamfest, September 21-23 at the Isleta Casino. This is another great opportunity to meet people in the ham radio community who might make good members in our club. Rick Harris will be looking for volunteers at our September meeting to help staff our club table at the large swap meet in the tail-gate area. I'm encouraging our members not only take advantage of the great opportunity to sell some of their radio items but also volunteer to help man our club there on Saturday and Sunday.

Thanks everyone for making our club a great one.

~David Wilson



THE LONE RANGER RADIO RIDES AGAIN! By David Wilson

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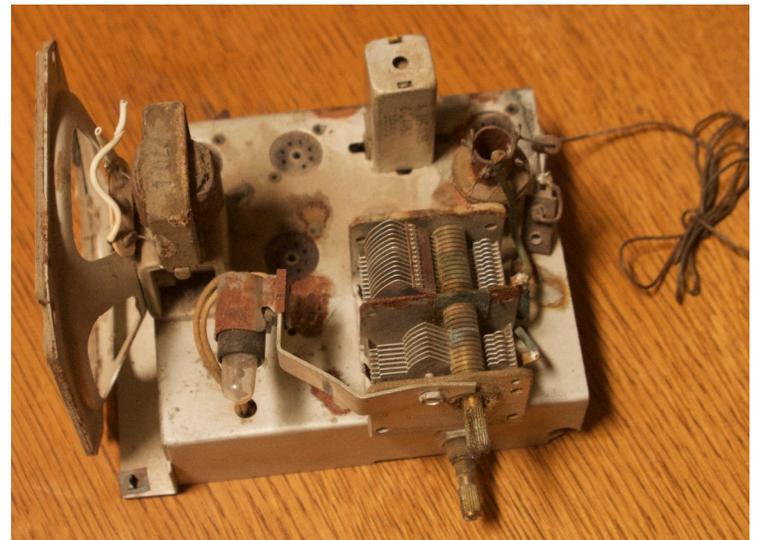
The tuning knob and back cover were missing as well. The chassis was all there but with some rust from the typical mice urine. It had no tubes and the speaker cone and voice coil were missing.



shop. I had an extra speaker and output transformer that is an exact duplicate of the speaker in the Lone Ranger radio. I also had 4 good tubes that went in the radio. What I did not have was the tuning knob, unique to this radio, the back cover, and it's 5-pushpin cover holders.

~ David Wilson

Hairline crack on left side with louvers pieces missing



Several rust spots on chassis and damaged speaker

It looked as if this 1951 novelty radio had come to the end of its radio receiving trail. Not much worth restoring. At best a parts radio, where you could sell the plastic Lone Ranger and Silver the horse figure and the radio chassis. I guess I felt sorry for this once great little radio that brought joy to some young radio listener, so I ended up with it after a \$14 bid.



Hairline crack the across right side

Like many of my radios purchased at in-club auctions. this one went straight to a shelf in my workshop. For several months I contemplated what to do with this novelty radio. It was going to be a pile of work to restore and parting it out seemed the easy route. I found inspiration when John

Estock showed interest in learning how to fix Bakelite radio cracks. I decided to repair the Lone Ranger radio and create a series of newsletter stories of the start to finish restoration project.

One of my goals in this series on the restoration of my 1951 Majestic Model 104 radio is to keep the price of this restoration, including the \$14 price I paid for the radio, under \$100. Below are before images of the radio and an inventory of the parts I have gathered up from other sources and from my work-



Back cover and reproduction knobs with new replacement speaker





A History Note On The Lone Ranger and this Radio

It was believed that the original Lone Ranger character was inspired by Texas Ranger, Captain John R. Huges, who was a character created in the book *The Lone Star Ranger* written by Zane Gray in 1915. The Lone Ranger first appeared as a radio show in 1933 on WXYZ (Detroit). The radio series would go on to produce over 2950 radio episodes. In 1938 Republic Pictures released a 1938 and 1939 Lone Ranger film serial that translated the masked man to the silver screen, boosting comic sales and other toy item sales. After World War II the Lone Ranger's radio and big screen popularity would carry the masked man to television in 1949 for eight seasons ending in 1957. It would be in this period, the post war baby boom, when the Majestic Radio Corporation would blow the dust off their old 1938 Charlie McCarthy radio cabinet molds and make a Lone Ranger radio to cash in on the television show's popularity.

In October's newsletter I will start the step-by-step cabinet restoration on this 1951 Majestic 104 Lone Ranger radio.

Stay tuned! ~David Wilson



Radio Exhibition at San Francisco Airport

by Chuck Burch

During a recent flight from Vancouver, BC to Albuquerque, I had a connection at the San Francisco Airport. While on the moving sidewalk to my connecting flight, I noticed a sign with the words "On The Radio" in the walking area between the moving sidewalks, and then to my amazement, I saw bunches of photographs and displays of radios. Since I had a long layover, I was able to go back to study all the displays and take pictures. All the radios were in Plexiglas enclosures to protect them, but this unfortunately interfered with taking pictures. Besides me, several other people were looking at the various displays. Particularly interesting was a woman talking to her grandson about the tabletop and transistor radios she had during the rock and roll era when she was growing up.

The exhibit appears to be the result of a combined effort between CHRS (California Historical Radio Society) and the SFO Museum. The SFO museum was established to humanize the airport environment and provide educational services to the traveling public. Their exhibits deal with art, history, science, and culture which are displayed on a rotating basis at various locations in the airport. The radio exhibit has been available since March 10th in Terminal 3 and is scheduled to be replaced November 4th.

The radio exhibit consisted around a dozen large radio-related pictures and the following Plexiglas-enclosed displays: Early Broadcasting, Crystal Sets, Battery Sets, Cathedral Sets, 1930s Tabletops, Music on the Radio, Rock and Roll Era Radios, Plywood Radios, Portable Tube Radios, Molded Plastic Radios, Transistor Radios, Early Novelty Radios, Novelty Radios, Zenith Console, Tubes, Bakelite Radios, Radio Shows, Catalin Radios, Microphones, Remler Radios (made in San Francisco), Luxury Radios, 1939 World Fair Exposition Radios, Mirrored Radios, Radio Patenting and Licensing, Radio Drama Voices, Coin Operated Radios and FM Radios.

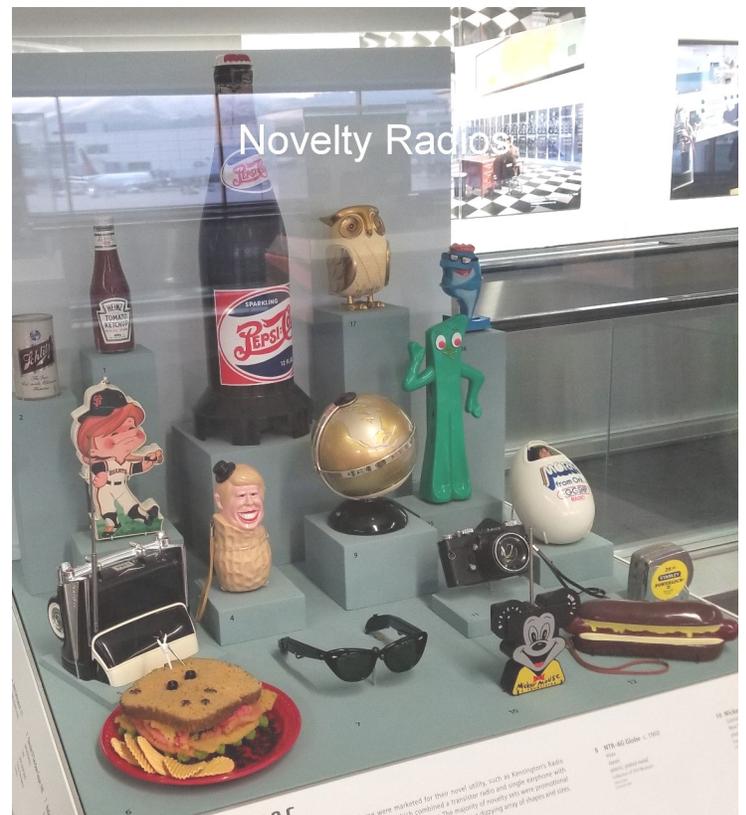
I will end with pictures of just a few of the displays

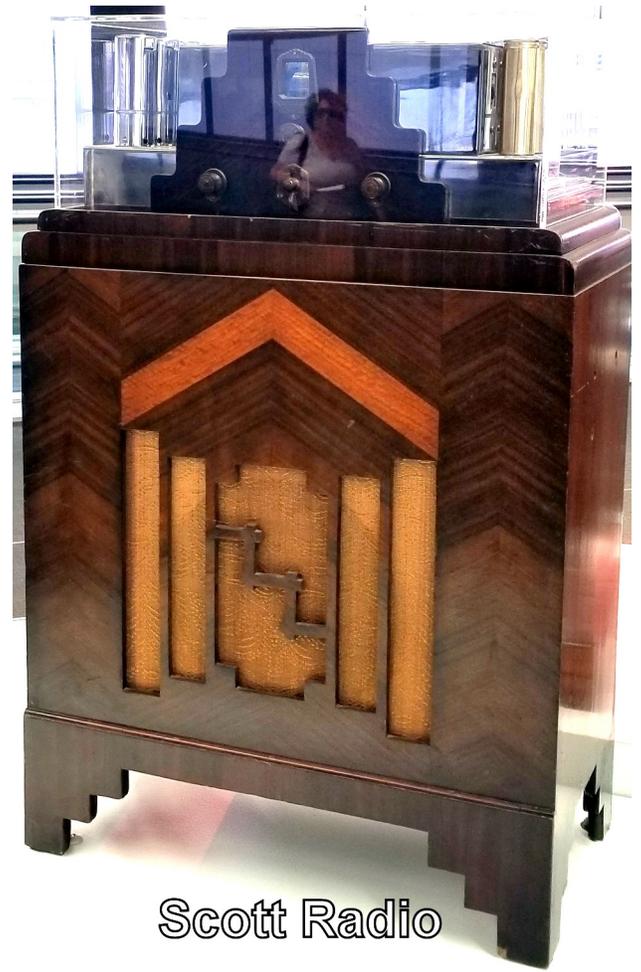
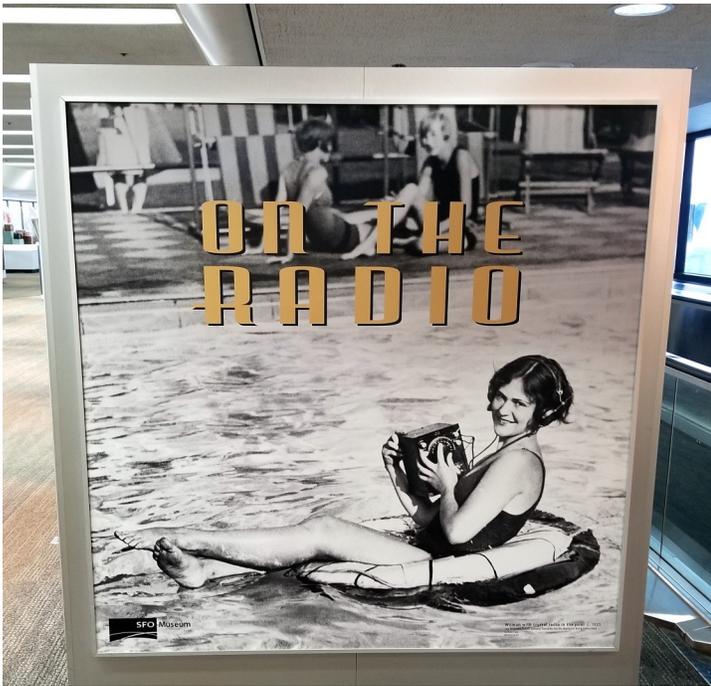
ABOUT CHRS



The California Historical Radio Society (CHRS) is a non-profit educational organization founded in 1974 to promote the

preservation, restoration, research and publication of early radio and broadcasting history. We are currently raising money to complete our new museum.





Scott Radio



McMurdo Radio



NEW MEXICO RADIO COLLECTORS CLUB

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FOR INFORMATION CHECK THE INTERNET
<http://www.newmexicoradiocollectorsclub.com/>



The New Mexico Radio Collectors Club is a non-profit organization founded in 1994 in order to enhance the enjoyment of collecting and preservation of radios for all its members.

NMRCC meets the second Sunday of the month at The Quelab at 680 Haines Ave NW, Albuquerque NM, 1:00PM meetings start. Visitors Always Welcomed.

NMRCC NEWSLETTER

THIS PUBLICATION IS THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW MEXICO RADIO COLLECTORS CLUB. INPUT FROM ALL MEMBERS ARE SOLICITED AND WELCOME ON 20TH OF THE PRECEDING MONTH. RICHARD MAJESTIC PRO-TEMP NEWSLETTER EDITOR, SEND ALL SUBMISSIONS IN WORD FORMAT, PICTURES IN *.JPG FORMAT TO: RMAJESTIC@MSN.COM

USPS Stamp

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become conductive, at least to the point causing unwanted noise or poor performance in test and other equipment. I didn't have a malfunctioning tube tester to clean but I did have several old controls and switches, some of which were rusty. I checked resistance of the controls and chose several that were intermittent; the WD-40 did indeed clean most of the controls. To be honest, some were obviously beyond restoration and nothing could bring them back to life. It should be noted that this product will remove most of the lubrication on shafts and ball bearings, so a careful relubing will be recommended after drying. Next I tried cleaning some phenolic rotary switches, and some had been cleaned in the past with Deoxit; it does remove leftover lubricants but does nothing to remove oxidation or corrosion on metal contacts. For this reason I cannot recommend WD-40 Contact Cleaner as an all-purpose cleaner for electronics.

Also, there are a few other things that lead me to believe WD-40 didn't do enough research when making this product: the nozzle is too wide for getting easily into controls. The push button sprayer doesn't provide enough control over the intensity of the stream; this may be good for cleaning off large areas like PC boards but is not good for controls and switches. It will remove solder flux, but may take quite a bit of spraying; you could do better with straight alcohol and a toothbrush.

An 11 oz. can is about \$7. Deoxit is about \$14 for 5 oz. In my opinion this product is NOT an all-in-one electronics cleaner.

(Editors comments) Those of you that have known me for years, know that WD40 doesn't belong in a radio shop for any radio project. Even if this stuff was good, I would never recommend using it. Cleaning switch contacts and not lubricating them is a mistake. If the contacts are clean, with no obvious dust or dirt, I only use CRC white lithium grease. A volume control should never be cleaned because what you remove is the carbon resistance that deposited on the curved insulator. Again, only spray a little CRC white lithium grease on the carbon surface and rock the control back and forth.

Many moons ago when I service television tuners I used Blu-Stuff and Deoxit and within a few months the tuner's contacts were scored and wrecked and the customer was very unhappy. There are people who swear by Deoxit and maybe it's a good product **now** but I don't trust it. I've used white lithium grease for over 50 years and so has all car builders who put it on all their connectors.

