

The Grid Leak

November—December
2011

www.hvra.org
(Color GL on web site)



A Merry Christmas

You're in my Christmas circuit
And on the waves of thought
A Happy Christmas and New Year
To you is gladly brought.

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HVRA
Convention

February 10-11, 2012
Greenspoint Marriott

From The President.....

I will keep this introduction short as we have lots of information to share in this, our final 2011 issue.

As fall turns toward winter, club activities are shifting into high gear. Our first ever HVRA – VRPS joint swap meet and barbeque on November 5 at Cecil Miles home was an encore for the season. HVRA Board member Dave Moore literally “took the bull by the horns”, to make this event a tremendous success! Participants from both clubs enjoyed the event so much that several requests were made, “can we do this again next year?” More fun events now lie just over the hill.

I also want to welcome our newest member Derek Ross who stepped forward during the election of officers in September and became our new club secretary. It is the dedication and spirit of volunteerism from members like Dave and Derek who, when they see a need or problem arise, step forward and attack the problem without hesitation. We are fortunate in having a number of members who are willing to do the same whenever a need arises. Yes, more needs await us “just over the hill”, so here is your chance to step forward and lend a hand.

How can you help? Well let's begin with a senior citizen's radio history presentation at the Bayland Community Center during the afternoon of December 9, and our annual holiday party at the Monument Inn on January 7. Then, during the second weekend in February we will need all hands on deck for our annual convention at the Greenspoint Marriott Hotel. With several estates in waiting we will need members who are willing to help arrange and move items from storage units for auction.



Bill Werzner , HVRA President

As in previous conventions, volunteers are needed for registration, auction handling, display set ups, security, judging, programs, and swap meet organizing. If you feel you could assist in any of these areas, contact me via phone or by e mail (713) 721 – 2242, e mail www.werz1943@gmail.com.

With that said, there remains a lot for us to do between now and then, so let's work together to make these future events successful. Please invite family members, friends, coworkers, or potential members to join us. We are always looking to recruit new members as these years roll by.

Have a Merry Christmas and Best Wishes for a Happy and Successful New Year! Bill Werzner, President, HVRA



Annual Post Holiday Party Saturday, Jan. 7, 5:30pm Monument Inn

Once again we are looking forward to a great party at the Monument Inn located on Independence Parkway also known as Highway 134 near the Lynchburg Ferry, just up the road from the Battleship Texas.

Last year we enjoyed a great turnout for one of the most enjoyable parties ever. If you have never been to the Monument Inn, you will be in for a surprise. They are wonderful hosts, there is plenty of parking, the facilities are excellent, and you won't go away hungry. The Inn will provide a cash bar for those who wish to indulge.

Following dinner we will hold our annual Christmas auction and drawings for some very nice door prizes. With our treasury now on firm ground, there will be some very nice prizes to be given away, family and friends are also welcome to attend. This year money (cash or checks) will be collected at the time of the banquet, so please don't pay in advance. Plan to arrive between 5:30 and 6 PM, and watch for our mail out announcement in early December.

As is the custom, bring two radio items and household items for the donation auction.

RSVP— to Bill Werzner, 713-721-2242 or werz1943@gmail.com

Outstanding October Program – by Ron Soyland

The October program featured a contest: “Converting Tube Radios to Solid State”.

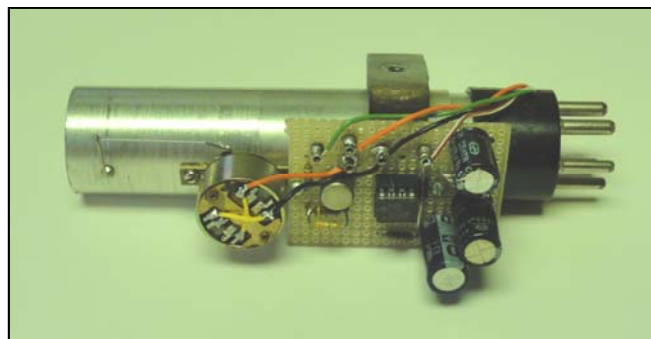
With only one contestant, Ron Soyland, his demonstration captured the show. Ron completely redesigned a six tube small wooden table top radio (Emerson BU229) so that solid state components mounted on tube bases could be directly substituted for each respective tube. Ron prepared large detailed diagrams showing each step in his conversion process and explained in detail how he overcame some very complex problems in several stages.

Most outstanding of all was his solid state conversion of the 6E5 tuning eye tube to solid state. With a series of bright green light emitting diodes, a vane and small motor from an old camera, Ron produced a solid state replica that looked and performed just like a real 6E5. When Ron progressed to the tuning eye during his presentation, people were thinking, no, he couldn't have! When it was removed from the socket and passed around the room all doubts were erased.

Ron's project is truly one for the books!

Top: Ron Soyland with Emerson BU229

Bottom: Solid state replacement 6E5 tuning eye



Lost — A True Friend & Fellow Collector

Billie Floyd Moore, 79, was born January 15, 1932, in Carrolton, Georgia. He passed away on November 2, 2011. Preceding him in death were his parents: Marian Elsie Otwell and Ezra Floyd Moore; brothers: Clarence Dale and Harvey Charles; sister: Frances Craft. Billie was the youngest of four brothers and also had two younger sisters. He is survived by his oldest brother, Donald H. and his wife, Shirley, of South Daytona FL and his younger sister Nell of Carrolton, Georgia.

Billie grew up on a farm near Carrolton, Georgia, graduated from Roopville High School in 1949. He attended technical school in North Georgia and was instructed in the field of electronics control systems. He would frequently return to Carrolton to attend his high school reunions.

As a lad he gave his heart to Christ and later he served in the church as a leader. He was also a deacon, directed choir, taught Royal Ambassadors and also served as Sunday School Director. He served and enjoyed assisting those in need and less fortunate in the church and community. Billie was an avid reader, westerns being his favorite.

Billie served in the Air Force for four years as a technical communications airman. He maintained the radios on the B-25 Mitchell's in supported the war effort.

Billie was a self taught banjo and guitar player and loved bluegrass music. When given the opportunity to play before a church or social organization, he would often open with “Wildwood Flower” and include “Duelling Banjos”. Billie enjoyed playing cards and dominoes with family and friends. Sometimes it was a hard choice whether to play cards/dominos or bluegrass.

He was married twice, both ended in divorce. He had only one child, a still born son in his first marriage.

Bitter and saddened over his first divorce, he moved to Houston and took a job with an oil company serving as a control electrician on off shore oil rigs in the Gulf. He later worked for Zenith Instrument Co. doing service work on industrial control systems. Before he retired he began his own business performing similar work.

His electronic interests lead him to join the Houston Vintage Radio Association where he served as president in 1983 and was a member in good standing until his death. He enjoyed traveling around the country to radio shows, estate sales and auctions, buying, collecting, and making many friends along the way. He had a unique skill in repairing and restoring old radios from the 1930's and 40's. As a collector, he acquired Zenith cathedrals and console radios. Billie enjoyed getting that winning bid especially at a bargain price.

He was a great friend and true gentleman. He will be missed.

Gilbert Hedge—*I have many fond memories of Bill. We met at a flea market while looking for radios, our common denominator throughout the years, and as a result we both joined HVRA at the same time in 1979 or 1980. We always enjoyed traveling together to the many radio functions and flea markets, always trying to find that special radio at a great price. I will miss him.*

HVRA CONVENTION 2012

FEBRUARY 10-11, 2012



2012 Convention Registration Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____

Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Local hotel: **Marriott** _____

Other _____

2008 HVRA Convention	No.	Total \$
Registration: \$10 (advance)		\$
(\$15 at the door)		\$
Awards Banquet: \$25 / person		\$
Membership: \$20 (new/renew)		\$
First Swap Meet Table (Free)		\$ -0-
Additional Tables (\$10 each)		\$
Grand Total		\$

Make checks or money orders payable to

**Return Payment to:
Tom Burslem
P.O. Box 31276**

**For more information, contact:
Jim Calbeck
jcalbeck@sbcglobal.net**

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2012 Convention Update

HVRA Vice President and Convention Manager, Jim Calbeck has been working diligently throughout the year preparing for our 33rd annual convention and 34th anniversary February 10 & 11, 2012. Among his many chores in preparing for this annual event has been to secure rooms at the Greenspoint Marriott for the convention itself, reserved rooms for guests, room set ups for contest and auction, etc. Along with the assistance and advice from At Large member, Dave Moore and others, here are some of the highlights of the 2011 convention:

- [1] Contest Manufacturer's choice: Admiral
- [2] Special room rates for HVRA members: \$ 79.00 per night.
- [3] Awards Banquet, guest speaker, and program Saturday night.

Houston Marriott North at Greenspoint
255 North Sam Houston Pkwy East
Houston, TX 77060
281-875-4000 or 1-888-236-2427
Room Rates: \$79/night

Event Schedule

Friday, Feb. 10, 2012

- 10am-7pm Registration
- 10am-4pm SWAP MEET (open to public)
- 10am-4pm Auction #1 & #2 Check-in
- 10am-4pm Old Equipment Contest Check-in
- 1pm- 4pm Technical Sessions (not in order)
- Edwin Armstrong Regenerated**
Bob Botto
- High Voltage—Arcs & Sparks**
David Herlinger
- Converting AC Radios to Solid State**
Ron Soyland
- 4:30pm Auction #1, Tubes & Paper
- 6:30pm Auction #2 - Plastic Radios, Test Equip.

\$10 min — NO Junk, please

Saturday, Feb. 11, 2012

- 8 am-11am Registration
- 7am-11am Swap Meet (open to public)
- 8am-11am Auction #3 Check-in
- 8am-9am Old Equipment Contest Check-in
- 9:30am OEC Judging
- 11 am-5pm Auction #3: wood radios, consoles
(\$20 min—NO Junk Please)
- 6:30 pm **Awards banquet—speaker:**
Harold Gunn

**Auction participants must be HVRA members.
HVRA dues: \$20 per year.**

East Texas American Picker Swap Meet



Gilbert Hedge found a Zenith kite

In early November on a beautiful fall day in East Texas Piney Woods, HVRA & VRPS conducted a swap meet in Weches TX at the home of Cecil and Fran Miles. About fifty folks joined us from Houston and Dallas plus near by communities to swap radios and tales. Cecil and Fran had a great time showing off their cars, radios and various memorabilia items. Most of us were impressed with the sheer volume of Cecil's collection. None of us left without something—trading was heavy. At the end of the day, no one left hungry as we all enjoyed Bar B Q. There is talk of a repeat swap meet in the future.



Some ate too much Bar B Q



A small portion of Cecil's eclectic collection.



There was a lot of interest in Jim Sargent's parts

Richard Collins' Collection – Feature Auction Attraction!

Many of our senior members will remember Richard who served as an HVRA officer and Board of Directors member for quite a few years. Following his death, his family sold Richard's large tube and parts collection during one of our annual convention auctions, but chose to keep his rare phonograph and radio collection along with a number of his vintage records. With the residence in Sugarland, TX for sale, the family decided to offer Richard's phonograph and radio collection to be sold during our convention auction in February 2012. Photographs of his beautiful collection are now on our web site at www.hvra.org. This collection currently fills a 10 by 20 foot storage unit which will be made available for viewing upon request as time permits. No sales from the storage unit will be permitted prior to the Feb. auction. Sealed bids will be accepted ahead of time that will be applied at the time of the convention auction for competitive bidding. To view the Collins collection, contact Bill Werzner (713) 721 – 2242.



Henry Harmony brought a truck load of radios

Christmas on the Battleship Texas Dec10

For several years now HVRA have participated in this fun event. BTARS (Battleship Texas Amateur Radio Station) may be transmitting from the second deck ham shack. If all goes as planned, HVRA will also show the public how we restore WW II era radio equipment, some of which is now working and on display aboard the ship.

A guided tour will be provided for HVRA members and guests starting at 10:30 AM. (contact Bill Werzner for reservations for guided tour, 713-721-2242) Last summer, the starboard engine room was opened for tours following four years of restoration work, and it is magnificent! If you have not seen the ship in recent years, you will be in for a pleasant surprise. Bring the family and that includes children grandchildren, nephews and nieces – the kids love it. Friends and neighbors are also welcome.

If you are working with the clubs, you get a free pass to board at the ticket counter. There are special discounts for seniors and children so come out, spend the day and take a tour of the San Jacinto Monument too.

To get there, take I-610 to the Highway 225 exit, go east through Pasadena and Deer Park, take the Independence Parkway exit just east of the Beltway 8 overpass. Turn left and drive about 2 miles to the San Jacinto Battleground State Park. The ship is on the left, the monument is on the right.



Houston Vintage Radio Association 2012 Old Equipment Contest February 10-11, 2012

- 1 Wireless / Spark Equipment
- 2 Crystal Receivers – Broadcast
- 3 1920's Broadcast Receivers
- 4 Cathedral & Tombstone
- 5 Table receivers (tube) – Wood & non Wood
- 6 Consoles
- 7 Table receivers (tube)– Catalin & Art Deco
- 8 Portable radios (tube)
- 9 Transistor Radios
- 10 Hidden / Disguised Radios
- 11 Phonographs
- 12 Reproducers & Microphones
- 13 Vacuum Tubes
- 14 Scientific, Test Equipment & Small Electrical Devices
- 15 Telegraph & Telephone
- 16 Amateur & Military Radios
- 17 Foreign Radios
- 18 Hi-Fi equipment
- 19 Manufacturer Category – **Admiral**
- 20 Replicas and Vintage Style Creations
- 21 Theme (unique message or topic)
- 22 Kit Radios (either assembled or unassembled)
- 23 Television
- 24 Open Display

**** Note: All entries must be >40 years old except for categories 9, 18, 20-24.**

2012 HVRA Convention Old Equipment Contest

Featured Manufacturer--Admiral

Awards:

- Best of Show***
- Peoples Choice***
- Best Restoration*** (must have support documentation)
- New Contestant**

New for 2012 —

Radio drawing for contest participants.

**Along with trophy/ribbon a cash prize will be awarded (in the form of a gift card)*

Contest Categories posted on HVRA web site

Buy, Sell, Trade, & Services Offered

Huge collection of Sams from Vol I on! Also included are seven or eight file cabinets filled with these collectable volumes from a closed out radio TV repair shop. Call or e mail Andy Lee at www.radiomanL@verizon.net

Radio & Phonograph Sales & Repair including vintage auto radios, battery sets, foreign sets, etc. We also sell and service vintage tele phones and telegraph equipment also parts, new & used tubes, transformers, schematics, books, phonograph parts & needles, records, etc. Vintage Sounds – celebrating our 24th year in business. Open Fri., Sat, & Sunday from 10 until 6 PM. Now located in The Market Place Antiques, 10910 Old Katy Road, in Houston (Located just west of The Room Store on the north side of the Katy Freeway). 10% member discount on radio items.

Borden Radio Company website: <http://www.xtalman.com> Antique Radio Schematic Service included in website. Crystal radio kits for sale. (281) 620 - 6692

Sargent Auction Service: www.sargentauction.com | Jim@sargentauction.com Jim Sargent, WA5QBR, Auctioneer | TX license 16135 | 200 Thomas Rd, Granbury TX 76049

Paul Wishnow, Certified Appraisals – for insurance, estates, divorce. “The Antique Man” can be heard Sunday afternoons 1 – 3 PM KNTH Radio 1070. Office at 5615 Richmond Ave., Ste. 145 in Houston. Phone (713) 666-2222 or go to www.theantiqueman.com

EPO Electronic Parts Outlet, New and surplus electronic components, come by and check out this incredible store! 3753 Fondren Road, Houston, TX 77063. Go to www.epohouston.com

Tom Granger Restorations, radio and phono cabinets. (281) 338 – 8277. wwwtomgranger@mac.com

HVRA Officers

President: Bill Werzner, 11402 Endicott, Houston TX 77039-2912; 713-721-2242; werz1943@gmail.com
VP Jim Calbeck, 435 Columbia St., Houston TX 77007; 713-868-2086; jcalbeck@sbcglobal.net
Secretary: Derek Ross, 19200 Space Center Blvd, Apt 2621, Houston TX 77058, 832-483-9819; allenross04@yahoo.com
Treasury: Tom Burslem, 23118 Newgate Dr., Spring TX 77373; 281-355-0144; tomburslem@yahoo.com
Historian: Gilbert Hedge, 1626 Kenwick PL, Pasadena, TX 77504; 714-625-5979; zen1441@sbcglobal.net
At Large #1: Reid Shipp WA5ARI, 1519 3rd St., League City, TX 77573; 281-943-9877
At Large #2: David Moore KF5FUM, 3213 Regal Oaks, Pearland TX 77581-6411; 281-705-3402; wd11@swbell.net
Webmaster: Steve Casciola, 18507 Park Harbor Dr., Houston TX 77084; 281-578-2609; casiola@prodigy.net
Grid Leak Editor — vacant

HVRA Event Schedule:

Location for all events: Bayland Park Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, Houston, TX Coffee & snacks available at regular meetings.

Friday afternoon, Dec. 9, 2011 Vintage radio program for senior citizens at Bayland Park Community Center, 6400 Bissonnet, 1:00 to 3:00 PM.

Saturday, Dec. 10, 2011 Christmas on the Battleship Texas, San Jacinto State Park, La Porte, TX. 10 AM to 5 PM.

Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2011 Monthly Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 PM, Bayland Park

NO REGULAR HVRA MONTHLY MEETING IN DECEMBER – Merry Christmas!

Saturday, Jan. 7, 2012 Annual HVRA Post Holiday Party, Monument Inn, La Porte, Texas. Entertainment, dinner, fun auction and door prizes. Cash bar.

Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2012 Monthly Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 PM, Bayland Park

Saturday, Jan. 28, 2012 Monthly meeting at Bayland Park Community Center,

Fri. & Sat., Feb. 10-11, 2012 Annual Convention – three auctions and banquet. Greenspoint Marriott Hotel, Houston, Texas

September Meeting Election Results

Vice President — Jim Calbeck
Secretary — Derek Ross
At-Large Position #1—Reid Shipp



CLOSE TO HOME



"I have no idea what it is, but it was only five bucks!"

The Grid Leak

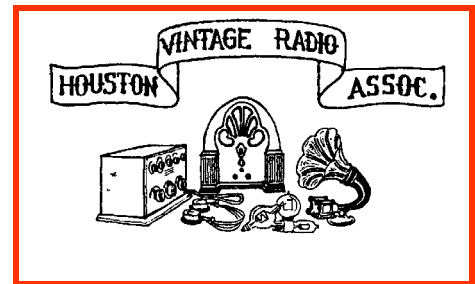
Nov.—Dec. 2011

No Meetings in
November or December

www.hvra.org

Notice on renewing your membership!

Please check the expiration date by your name in the address of this newsletter. It should show your membership expiration date.



*Post Christmas—
Holiday Party
January 7, 2012*