



RADIOS...HERE & THERE
Philip & Jeannette Bausch



Over the years, Jeannette & I have collected a lot of radios. These pages contain some of them. They represent our collection at various stages here in Oregon, and there in Nebraska.

We really enjoyed collecting with our Nebraska friends: (back) Hugh Hunt, Jon Walker & Al Koontz, whose wife Mary Kay often joined us. (front) John O'Conner, Jane Hunt & David O'Hanlon. You can see part of Hugh & Jane's amazing collection in the background.

This red 1938 Emerson "Little Miracle" is one of our favorites. The cabinet is made of Catalin plastic with a lot of yellow swirls mixed with the red. The white grille is made of Tenite which had a tendency to warp over time from the heat of the tubes and the slight shrinking of the Catalin case.



Model AX235



Model G1465

Another Catalin radio from 1938 is this maroon Crosley "Split Grille". The Crosley company used Catalin for the grille, so there was no warping. The original color of the grille and knobs was a white alabaster, but it has turned to a rich butterscotch over time, because of ultraviolet rays. Both radios are small, about 9" X 5".



Model AU190

A 1938 Emerson Tombstone in multi-colored swirled Catalin.

General Electric didn't make many Catalin radios, but they're responsible for this elegant "Jewel Box" from 1940. With the lid down, it looks like a regular jewelry box, but lifting the lid reveals the controls and speaker. A really nice design, and the Catalin is beautiful. Catalin was only used from about 1937 to 1947, because it was labor intensive to manufacture.



Model L-622



Two Sentinel Catalin radios. The one on the left is the 1939 model 248NI (177U). It has a refined look with grooves on the front & top of the case, an unusual dial with the station pointer set to the side, and contrasting tortoise-shell grille, knobs and dial surround.



To the right is a 1939 Sentinel push button radio, model 195 ULTA. Not many Catalin radios had push buttons, but they allowed owners to have their favorite stations just a touch away.

A 1942 Addison 5
"Courthouse". A
Catalin radio made
in Canada.





Part of our display in Nebraska.



A gorgeous ivory Plaskon Kadette 40 "Jewel" from 1935. It's a small radio, and the grille shows an early use of swirled plastic. The brown Bakelite version in the smaller photo belonged to my uncle & aunt, Mike and Margaret Hall from Leigh, Nebraska. The "Vogue" picture disc 78 rpm record was also theirs.



1945 Fada 652 "Temple"



1945 Fada 1000 "Bullet"



The "Bullet" is Catalin radio's most iconic design.



1947 Fada 1005



Model AU 190

1937 radios...a Catalin Emerson and a Plaskon Air King "Skyscraper".



Model 770



Model A501

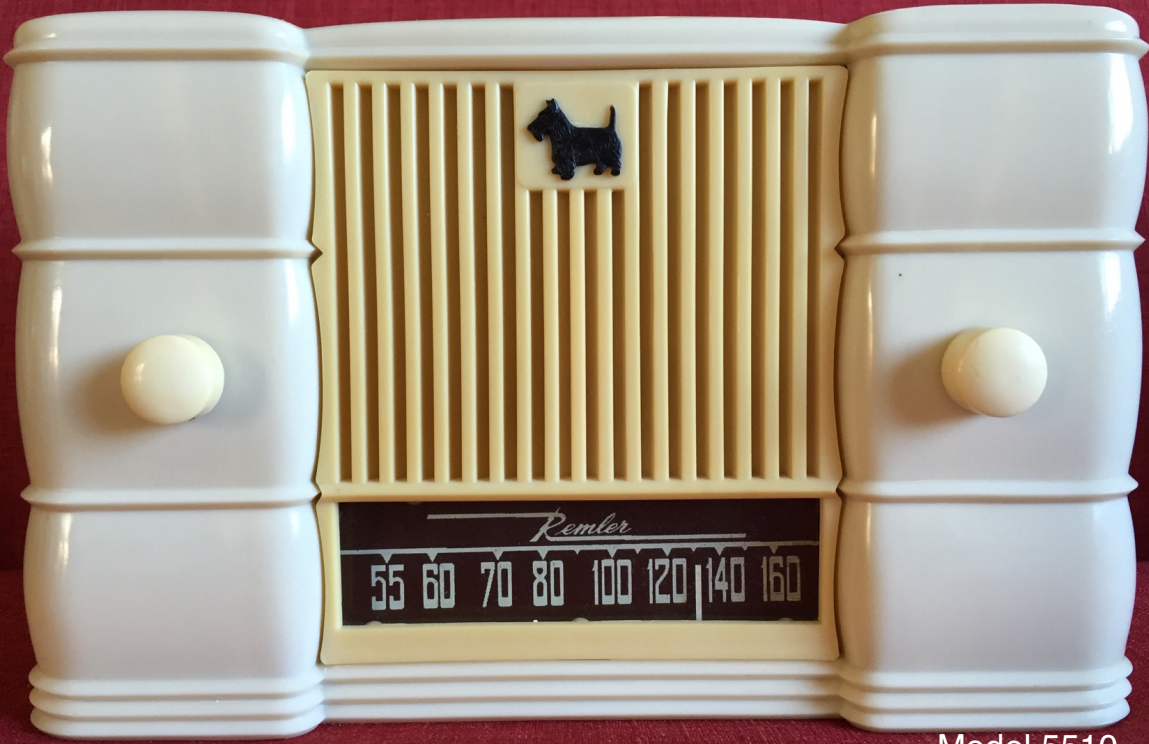


Two 1938 DeWald "Harps" and two 1939 DeWald "Jewels"...all in beautiful Catalin.



Model 561





Model 5510



Model 5505

1947 Remler "Scottie's" from San Francisco. The below radio has a lid that flips back to play '78's.



Model 5300





A large 1945 Garod 1B55L "Commander" in dramatic red & yellow Catalin.

Below are two 1945 Sentinel 284 "Wavy Grilles". The color of the yellowish one is called "Sand". The quirky & fun design includes an inverted chassis so the knobs are at the top, and the tubes inside hang upside down.





Four 1940 Addison Model 2 radios with cases made from 4 plastics. Clockwise from top left, they are Beetle plastic, blue/green Plaskon, swirled Catalin, and maroon Bakelite.





Here's a 1939 Catalin radio by designer John Vassos. It's an RCA 9TX4 "Little Nipper", named after the dog in the RCA logo.

Similar in design and small size are a blue Beetle 1939 GE C400, and a 1947 Cavalcade RS1A in swirled plastic.



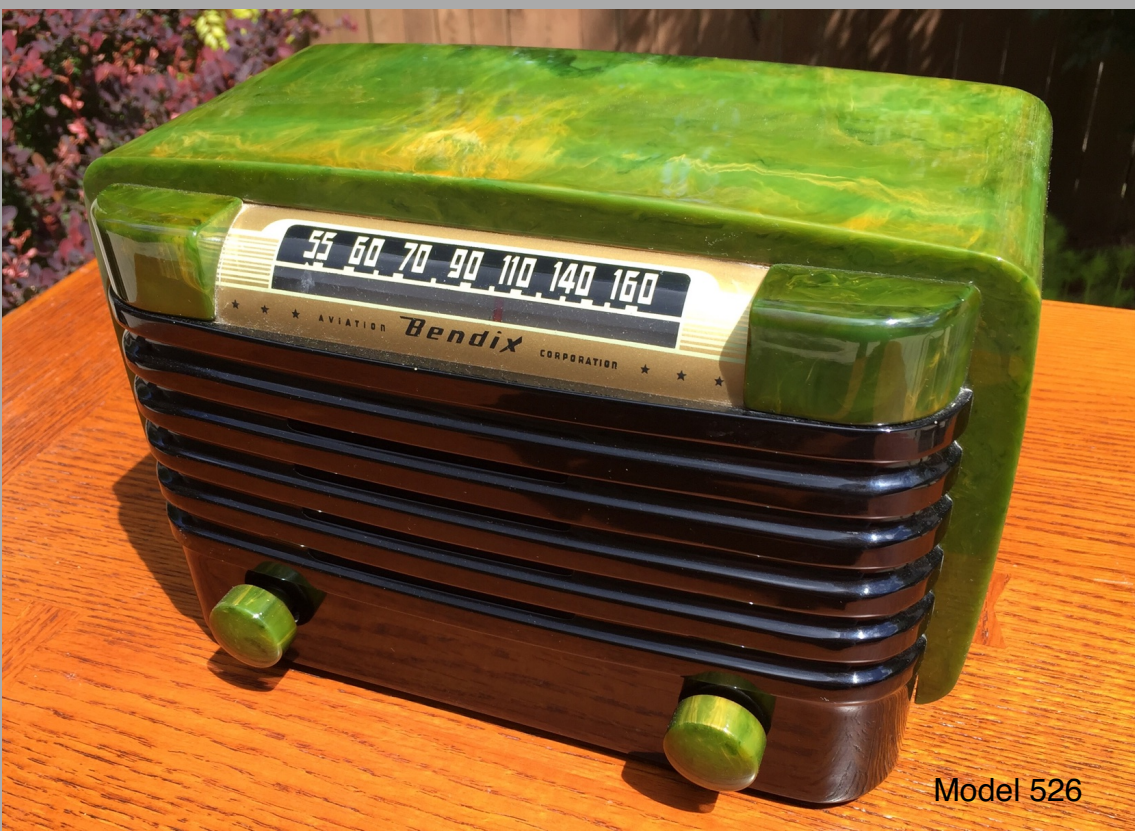


Model 651



Model 250

Above is the Plaskon version of the very deco 1937 Majestic "Triple Fin". The maroon Bakelite Majestic is a 1939 "Zephyr". Below are 1940's Bendix radios in Catalin & Plaskon.

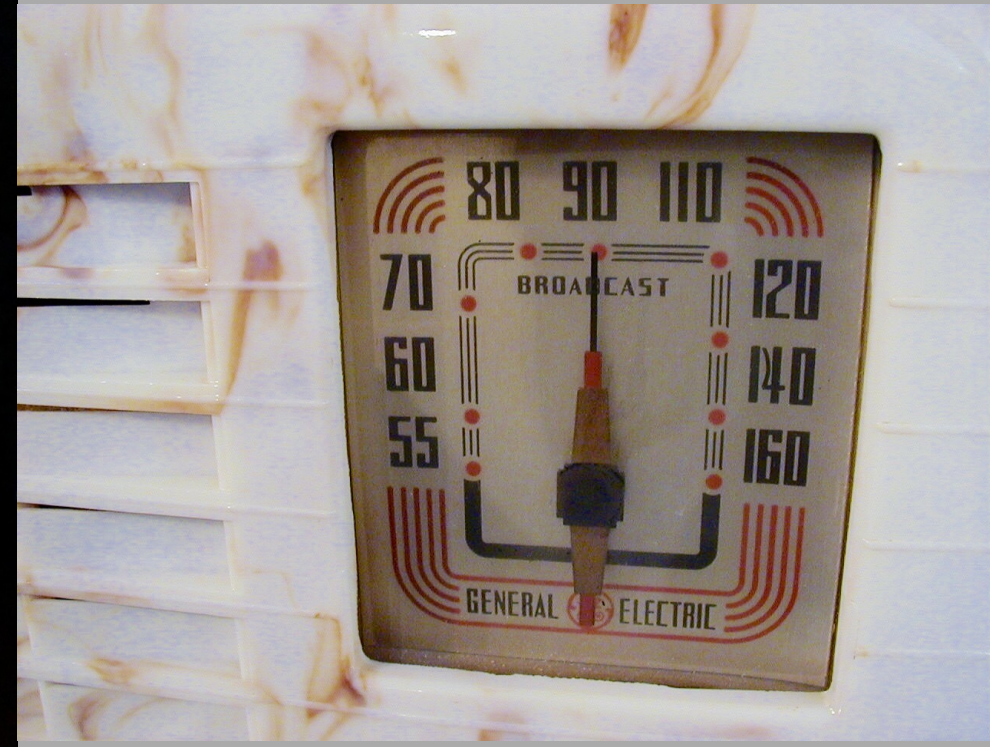


Model 526



Model 114

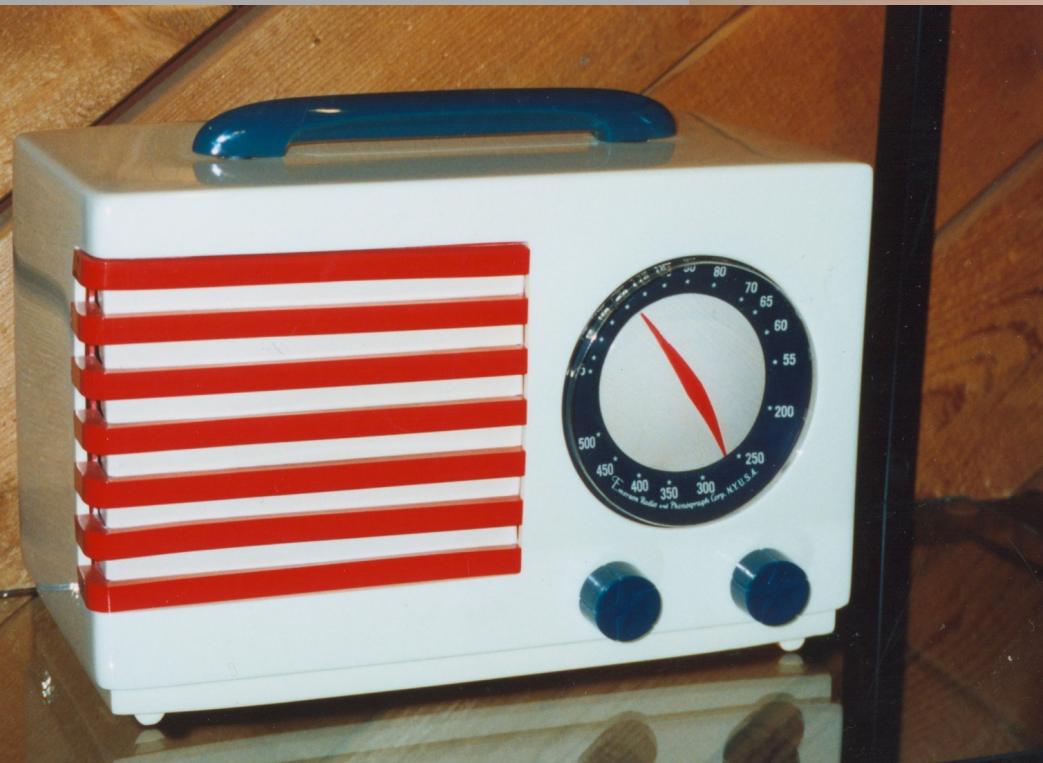
Below is the dial of a 1939 General Electric KM-51 made of Beetle plastic. The full radio is at the bottom.



Here's a nicely designed 1938 Majestic "Clockette" style Model 511 in Beetle plastic with blue Tenite grille & knobs...also shown with the clock option.



The Emerson 400 "Patriot" radios were designed by Norman Bel Geddes for the 1939 World's Fair, and the dial stylizes the symbol of the fair. The cases came in red, white & blue Catalin.





In 1941, Emerson added the "Aristocrat" to the model 400 series. It was the same style as the "Patriot" but gave consumers more color choices, like this pistachio case.

The photo below shows how the radio looked before the discoloration was removed.





Easily one of the most elegant of all radios, is this 1936 Emerson "U5A" Tombstone. It came before the Catalin versions of 1937 and 1938. The ivory Plaskon is thinner and simpler to mold, so it has a more fragile look, and the case could include finer detailing. It really is a special example of 1930's design.



More great designs.

First is a Tesla Talisman from Czechoslovakia. Made of maroon Bakelite, it was designed in the '30's & produced in the '40's.

The 1946 Belmont 6D111 is in it's original painted Bakelite, has push buttons, a nice dial, and great sound.



There's no other radio quite like the 1947 Stewart Warner "Air Pal" A51-T3. It's a small radio with a highly stylized narrow case. The knobs on top are slightly set into the sweep of the shiny black Bakelite.





The radio display in Nebraska changed often. This part of the display has 22 radios that were sold while we were still in Lincoln.



Wooden radios in Lincoln.

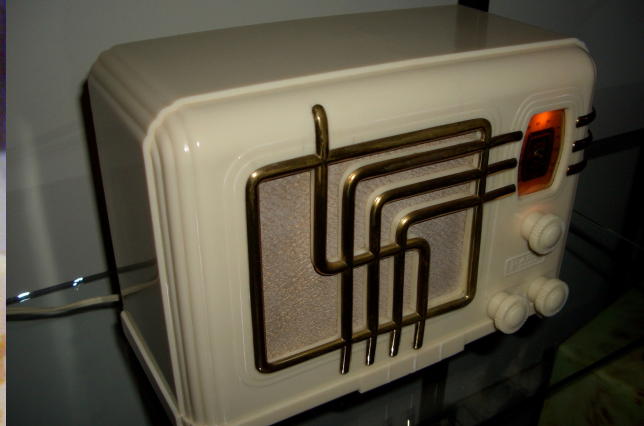
Top shelf is our 1st wooden radio, a Crosley. The 2 chrome grided radios are a Jewell & a Majestic. The dramatic radio with the large speaker is a 1949 Setchell Carlson "Jet". The Bottom shelf has a Zenith "Walton" and my Grandpa's violin.

Below is a 1933 "Studio" Model 59 by Majestic.



Sometimes radios are just for fun. The speaker cut-out of this 1940 Philco 40-140 reminded us of our favorite University.





More radios from Lincoln (another red Addison 5), & a bright blue Catalin poker chip holder.





This part of our display in Lincoln, Nebraska was in the early to mid 2000's. We sold 45 radios just prior to our move to Oregon.

The large Philco replica (made by our brother-in-law Curt) was used in the lobby of radio stations I worked at in the '90's. It was a monitor, and we could select KFOR-AM or KFRX-FM.



This is the first shot of the main part of our display here in Oregon from 2008 when our son Paul helped assemble the cabinets. He also took this photo.



Model 274



Model TP7

More small radios. A 1939 Detrola "Split Grille" with a very similar style to the Crosley radio at the start of this book. Next is a 1939 Philco "College" radio. The black Bakelite was often painted in the colors of various colleges. Below: A 1947 General Television radio, and a "Gem" in blue Plaskon.



Model A



Model 955



Three 1946 Satchell Carlson "Frog Eyes" in colorful Plaskon.

One is a rare cobalt blue & the same Model 416 is shown in white & red.

The grey & red radio is the larger Model 427.





Philco Model 49-501



Belmont Model 118



Truetone Model D1124



GE Model H510

Brown Bakelite radios with style! The asymmetric 1949 Philco "Boomerang", the symmetrical 1947 Truetone with a big red dial, a 1938 Belmont (Western Royal) with a little red dial, & a 1939 GE "Turbine" with a marbled Bakelite case.

The largest Catalin radio is the 1947 RCA 66X8...with a strong design, and sharp curved-in glass dial.

Bottom right is a Catalin DeWald A-502 in "Sand".

Even though the red Crosley from 1948 looks like Catalin, it's Styrene plastic.



Three cool Plaskon radios.

To the right is a small 1938 Emerson 246 "D-Dial". It's basically the Plaskon version of the "Little Miracle". What a great design!

From 1939 is another radio with a D-shaped dial, a Farnsworth AT11. Lots of deco styling!

Also from 1939 is a DeWald 555 "Cash Register"... pretty unique, and a hard to find model.



To the right is a 1947 Coronado "Racetrack" with blue trim. This is the Plaskon version.

The Deco 1938 Emerson BA-199 is more detailed than most Bakelite radios.

The radio made of Catalin is a 1946 Fada 711 "Dip Top".



The '50's!



Emerson 744B's



4 Crosley's

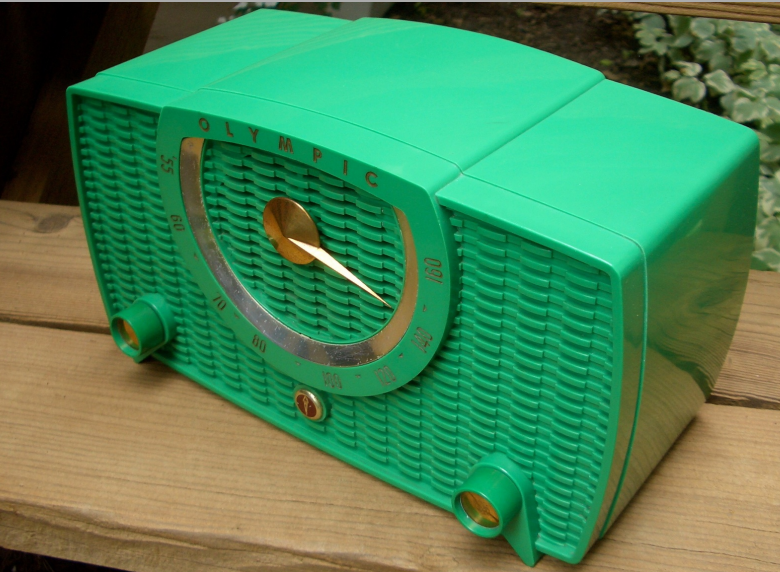


Pay no attention to this '30's radio.

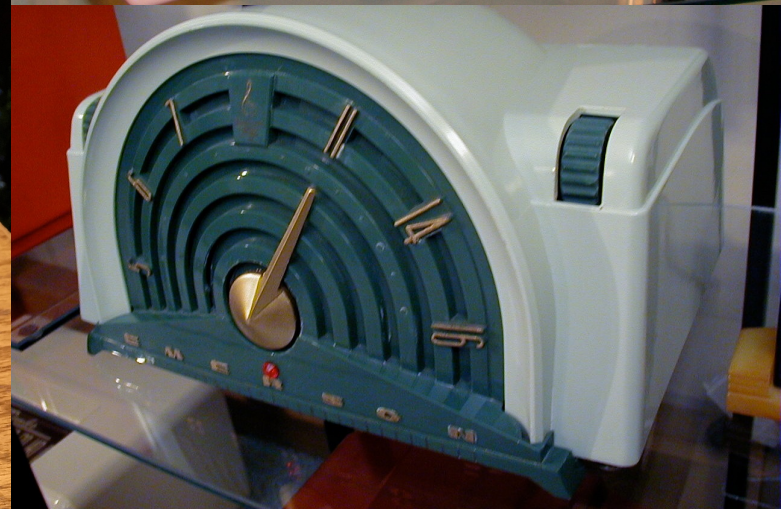


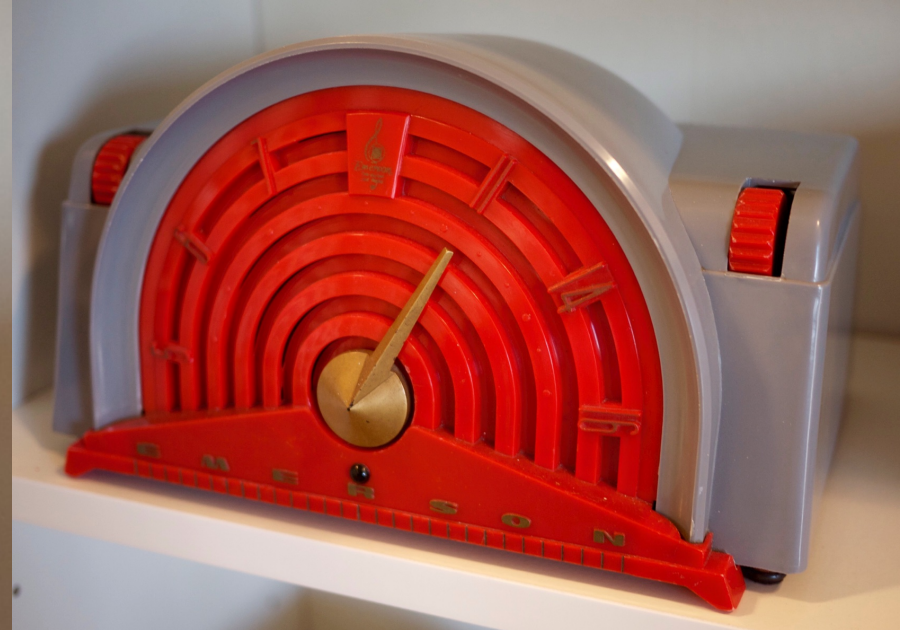
Motorola "Jets"





At one time we had more 1950's radios.





The youngest radios we have are these 1954 Emerson 744B's in colorful Plaskon. The clever design looks good from all angles. One of the most collectible '50's radios.



Collecting radios can lead to other things. This is a 1964 Seeburg Jukebox...one of two that we owned...filled with our 45's!





As of 2013, our '30's & '40's radios fit into this display. The '50's radios and some wooden ones are not shown (86 total radios). Close-ups make it hard to judge sizes, but this shot gives a good perspective. The Emerson Tombstones in the middle are about 10" X 7".



1937 AU 190



1938 BT 245

In February of 2015 we added these colorful Catalin Emerson Tombstones.



The wooden Emerson 110 has the same chassis as the ivory Plaskon Emerson "U5A".



Expert Gary Marvin impressively restored this wooden Emerson.

4 small radios from 1939 added in Spring 2015.



Detrola 218 "Pee Wee"...6" wide & 4 1/2" high.

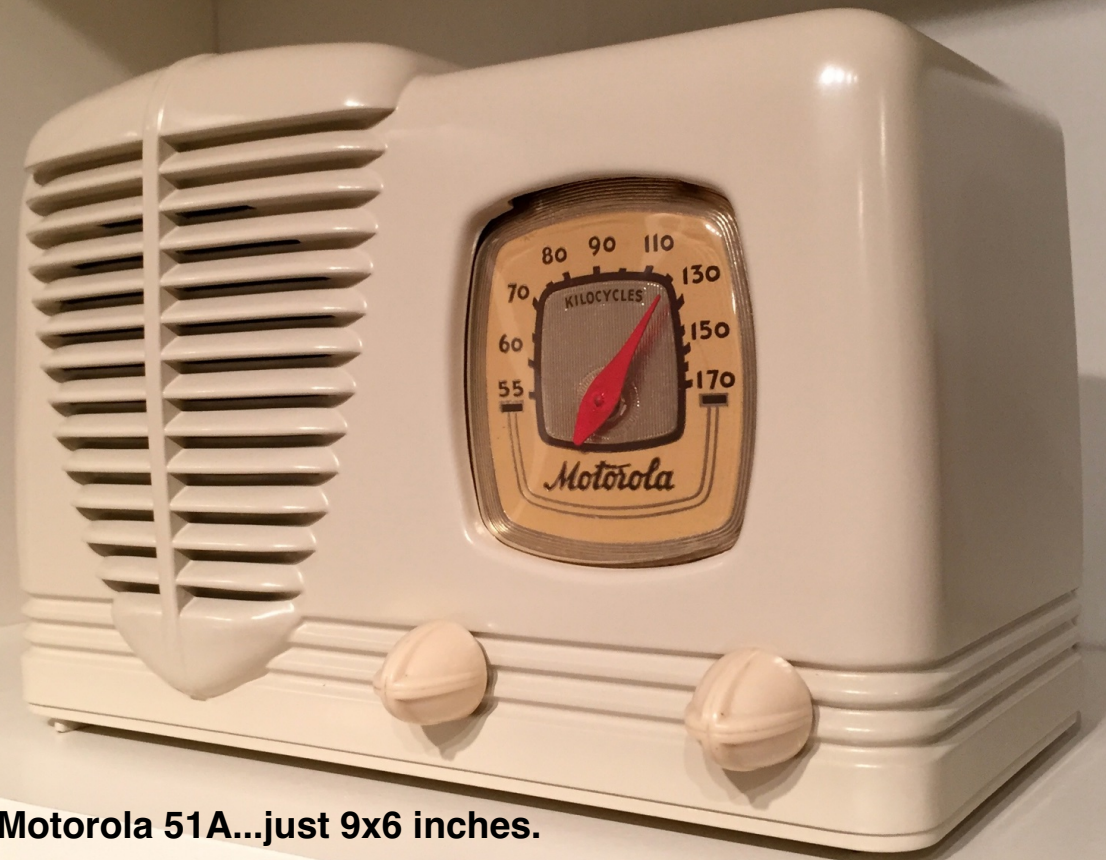


Detrola 219 "Super Pee Wee"...8" x 4 1/2".

Blue
Plaskon



Painted similar
to blue Plaskon.



Motorola 51A...just 9x6 inches.

We've haven't had much luck at antique stores & shows, but we found these 5 radios at an antique show in Portland in March, 2015.

It's kind of our own "Little Miracle".

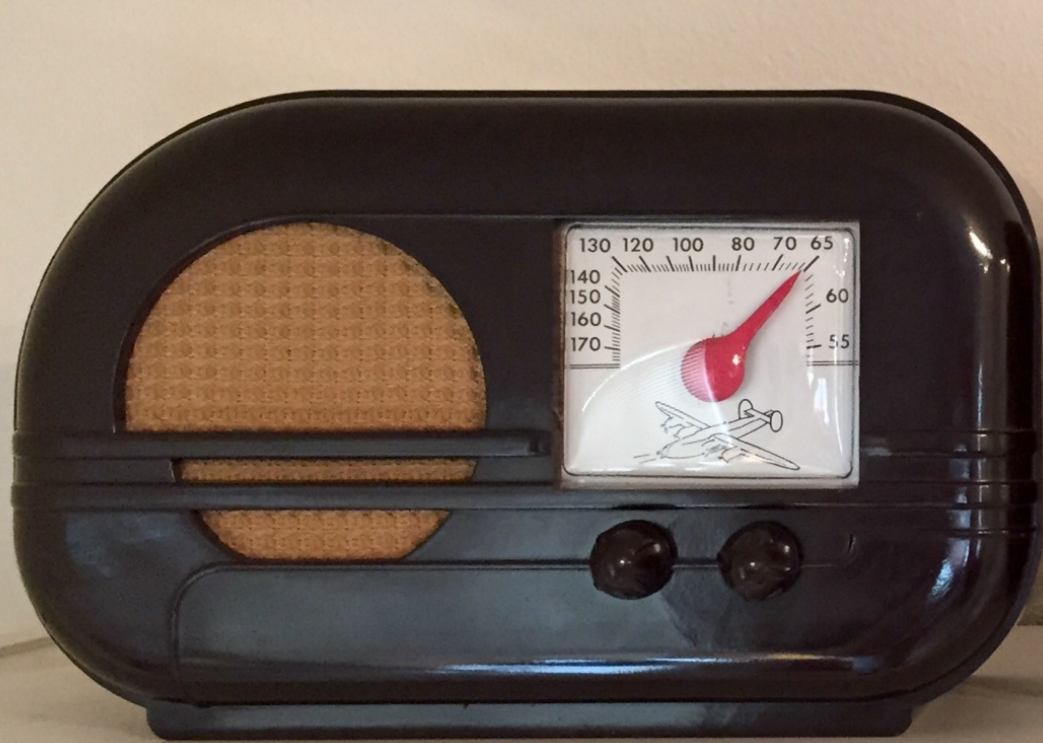


Model AX235



Blue mirrors and chrome were a big part of the Deco era. The impressive Sparton "Bluebird" radio was designed in 1933 by Walter Dorwin Teague. To me, it looks like a tri-wing airplane in a blue sky. The propeller is the dial pointer, and the tires are the black feet. Teague may not have designed the clock, but there is a shared deco style with this beautiful reproduction of the Sparton "Bluebird".





They nearly look like two sizes of the same radio. The larger one is a 1947 Belmont 114, with push buttons and that popular Belmont styling.

The other radio is completely unmarked as to brand or model. It's quite likely that it's by the same designer and was made by the Belmont company. The case design was also utilized by the "Mission Bell" company. The coolest part of the radio is the drawing of a B-24 "Liberator" airplane from World War II. The radio was probably produced around 1941...like the "Mission Bell".



Recent additions are this 1937 Emerson AT-170 Slant Front and a 1938 Grunow Chrome Grille Model 592.

The Grunow is about 13" wide, 8" high & 6" deep. The Emerson is also about 13" wide, but is nearly 18" tall. Completely different designs, but both great!

Hard to beat a chrome grille and black dial.





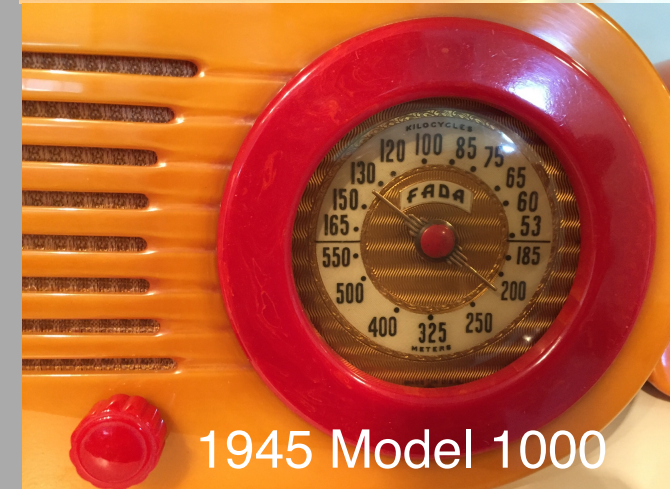
1940 Fada Model 115

Wanted a pre-war 1940 Fada Bullet, and found this one. The dial, knobs and handle are different than the 1945 model.



1940 Model 115

Now we have examples of both pre-war & post-war Fada Bullets in our collection.

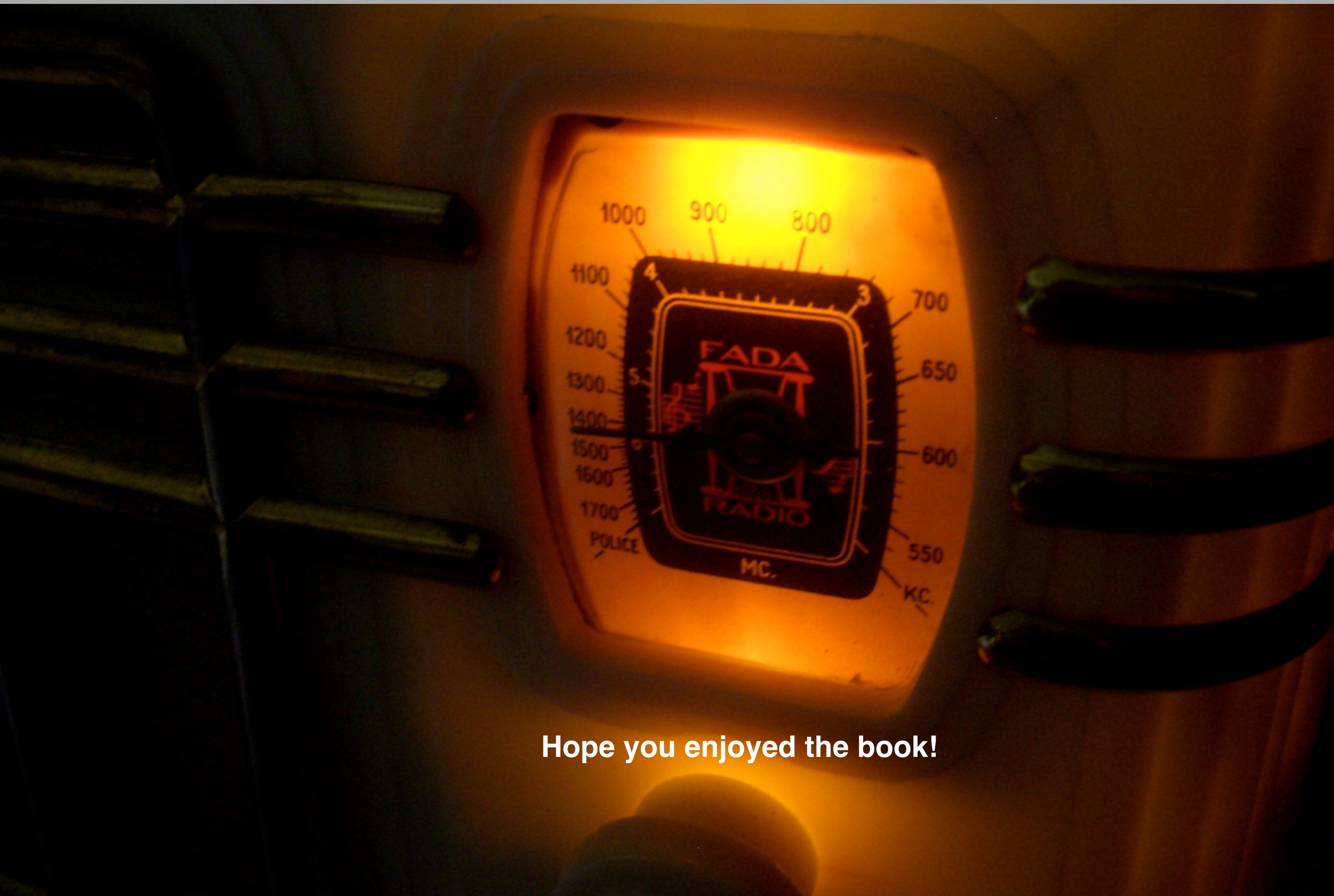


1945 Model 1000





Started the year with 86 radios, by June 2015, we were down to 61 in this display, and 4 wooden radios not shown. We'll continue reducing the overall number, while adding a few key radios.



Hope you enjoyed the book!