

RadioActivity 2026

Thursday Evening, June 4 Through Saturday, June 6

RadioActivity 2026 will be held at a great new venue: The Crowne Plaza Hotel, 173 Jennifer Road, Annapolis, MD 21401, on the north side of the intersection of U.S. Highway 50 and MD Highway 450. This hotel provides proper meeting space as well as a very attractive room rate (considerably less than last year's hotel prices)!

The theme this year is The Evolution of Vacuum Tube Technology. The event features three Friday seminars on a variety of interesting topics, plus Ed Lyon's always-popular radio repair clinic on Saturday morning. This year Ed welcomes suggestions from you about what you would like to have him discuss at the clinic. So, email Ed with your thoughts about repair challenges: (lyon@fred.net)

Given our theme, we are allocating time Friday morning (at 8 am) for a Tube Collectors Association get-together. While the TCA has disbanded as an organization, many TCA members continue to keep in touch with each other, and this provides an opportunity to meet in person.

The special hotel rate for the event is \$149 plus tax, which is considerably less than the rate of most of the hotels people stayed at last year. **The cutoff date for hotel reservations is May 4.** Call the hotel at 1-800-2crowne (800-227-6963) to make a reservation, and be sure to specify Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club June 2026 Conference Event to get the special rate. Please notify MAARC when you have reserved a room (info@maarc.org).

Meet registration is required to participate in the auctions and Old Equipment Contest, attend seminars, and sell in the flea market. The conference name badge provided at the meet should be worn at all times. There is a discount for those who pre-register for the meet, and MAARC members get an additional break. **Meet pre-registrations must be received by MAARC by May 15.** (The registration fee includes your family, but banquet tickets and vendor spaces are additional.) After May 15 you must register at the meet. Note that for those who plan to attend **ONLY** on Saturday, there is a one-day registration fee option.

Thursday evening (7:30 pm) will feature a tube, literature, and ephemera auction similar to those of past years, and there is a distinct possibility that it may be combined with an estate auction, so plan to arrive on Thursday.

The registration desk (located in the hall leading to the elevators) will be open between 5 and 7 pm Thursday night, but **there will be no vendor selling until Friday morning.** The registration desk will re-open, and the flea market will begin at 7 am Friday. There will be 20 six-foot tables indoors for vendors (\$30 each) and 49 flea market spaces in the parking lot at the rear of the hotel (\$20 for two spaces—one for your car and one for your own table) for Friday and Saturday. Reserve your table or spaces early to avoid disappointment.

At the Saturday main auction there is a minimum opening bid of \$10 per item, and a \$1 fee for any item that does not sell. **Those who are not MAARC members will pay a higher seller's commission (15%) for their items.** (MAARC Members pay a 10% commission.) That's another good reason to join MAARC. At the Thursday evening auction, the \$10 minimum bid requirement is waived, and there is no charge for no-sale items, but the commission charges are the same as at the main auction. Only tubes, literature, advertising and ephemera will be accepted. Once an item is consigned, it may not be removed.

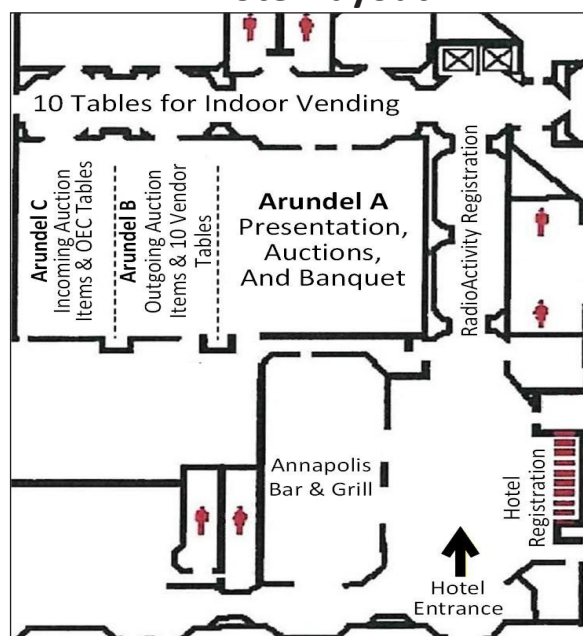
A no-reserve walk-around auction in all vendor areas will be held at 8:30 am Saturday morning. The auctioneer walks around the vendor areas auctioning items offered by vendors. No commission will be charged during that auction and no paperwork will be kept. The buyer pays the seller in cash immediately upon having the winning bid.

The Friday night buffet banquet speaker will be vacuum tube expert Jim Cross, sharing stories about vacuum tube history. The banquet event will feature door prizes. Tickets are \$49 each. Banquet tickets are partially subsidized by MAARC. You must present your banquet ticket to enter the banquet room. A no-host social hour in Arundel Room A precedes the banquet. We anticipate that only a few banquet tickets will remain for sale at the door. Pre-register so you won't miss this event.

The banquet will feature a cash bar and two food buffets, one Italian style, the other Hawaiian style.

MAARC and its officers are not responsible for any accident, injury, or loss that occurs at this meet.

Hotel Layout



RadioActivity 2026 Schedule

Date	Time	Event	Location
June 4 (Thursday)	5 pm	Registration desk opens. See page 3 for complete list of registration desk hours.	Hallway near elevators
	5 to 7 pm	Tube ephemera and literature auction consignment, ends at 7 pm	Outside Arundel Room C
	7:30 to 9 pm	Tube, ephemera, & literature auction, possible estate auction	Arundel Room A
June 5 (Friday)	7 am	Conference registration desk opens.	Registration area
	7 am	Vendor sales begin	Parking lot & Arundel Room B
	8 am	TCA Meeting	Arundel Room A
	9 am to 11 am	Old Equipment Contest entry log-in	Arundel Room C
	11:00 am to noon	Seminar: "Modern High-end Tube Testers," by Tom Miccolis and Randy Warren	Arundel Room A
	Noon to 1 pm	Old Equipment Contest judging (contest room closed)	Arundel Room C
	1:30 to 2:30 pm	Seminar: "ARC-5 WW II Command Communications," by Joe Meagher	Arundel Room A
	2:30 to 3 pm	Contest Viewing	Arundel Room C
	3 to 4 pm	Seminar: "The Hi-Fi Audio Forum, moderated by David Rossetti	Arundel Room A
	4 to 6 pm	Contest Viewing	Arundel Room C
	6 pm	No-host social hour	Arundel Room A
	7 pm	Banquet begins. Banquet Speaker: Jim Cross, "Tube History Stories"	Arundel Room A
	For 1 hour after the banquet	Old Equipment Contest Viewing (Remove all contest entries by 10:30 pm.)	Arundel Room C
June 6 (Saturday)	7 am	Registration desk and flea market re-open	Registration area & vendor areas
	8:30 am	Walk-around auction	All vendor areas
	8:30 to 11:30 am	Main action consignment check-in	Outside Arundel Room C
	9:30 to 11 am	Ed Lyon's Radio Repair Clinic: Repair issues suggested by the attendees	Arundel Room A
	11:30 am	Auction consignment closes. All entries must be logged in	Outside Arundel Room C
	Noon	Main Auction	Arundel Room A

Old Equipment Contest Categories for RadioActivity 2026

Theme: Vacuum Tube Evolution

- Vintage Electronics using Vacuum Tubes Developed prior to 1925
- Vintage Electronics using Vacuum Tubes Developed between 1926 to 1940
- Vintage Electronics using Vacuum Tubes Developed between 1941 to 1955
- Vintage Electronics using Vacuum Tubes Developed after 1955
- Cathedral and tombstone radios
- Foreign radios
- Burgundy colored radios from the factory
- Radios with the same chassis but different cabinets
- Lazurus project radios
- Radios with chrome grilles
- Hi-Fi audio amplifiers
- Hi-Fi audio accessories (including turntables and tape recorders)
- Open category

All OEC entries MUST be removed by 10:30 Friday night. The area is not secure. after that.

OEC Contest Rules

Remember that documentation, especially noting any restoration or repair, and provenance are essential for an entry to be competitive. Awards may be given in each category.

Special OEC Awards

- 1. Best of Show.** The entry that, in the opinion of the judges, best represents the contest criteria.
- 2. People's Choice.** The OEC entry voted most popular by those who view the contest.
- 3. Significant Historical Merit.** The entry(ies) that, in the opinion of the judges, has the most historical significance (for example, first of a kind, extreme rarity, influence on the industry, milestone event, etc.)
- 4. Preservation Award.** Given to the entry that best emphasizes keeping the item original—no modern replacement parts, refinishing, etc.

Special awards 3 and 4 will not be given if the judges feel that no entry meets the criteria.

Contest Criteria. The OEC judges use the following scoring weights:

A. General Appearance [0-20 pts]. Is item restored, cleaned, and generally presentable, or just “as-found”?

B. Item Rarity [0-10 pts]. Not as important as authenticity, but it counts for the item to be relatively hard to find.

C. Authenticity [0-20 pts]. How much of the item is demonstrably authentic and not modified? Documentation may be crucial.

D. Documentation [0-20 pts]. Ads, journal articles, books, schematics, news clips, restoration/repair notes, provenance, and description of historical significance of the item all help.

E. Entrant Effort [0-20 pts]. How much was done by entrant, based on item appearance and documentation?

F. Qualitative Bonus [0-10 pts]. The bonus is based on judges' judgment and experience.

Entries (except consoles) must fit on a table and take up no more than 3 feet x 18 inches of table space. If your entry requires a display stand, you need to provide

it yourself. No mountings may be fastened to the walls. Should the contest room fill to overcrowding, the contest officials reserve the right to limit the number of items submitted.

MAARC's Auction & Flea Market Policies

To participate in the auctions as a buyer or seller or flea market seller, you must be registered for the meet. Vendors and buyers may register for Saturday only for \$15. At the main auction (Saturday) there is a minimum opening bid of \$10 per item. Batch inexpensive items in box lots so that each will bring more than \$10. Please sell items that won't meet the \$10 minimum bid during the walk-around auction Saturday morning. **Items or lots that (in the judgment of the auction officials) are unlikely to sell for at least \$10 during the main auction will not be accepted.** Please limit consignments to vintage electronic items. At the main auction, the seller's commission for MAARC members is 10 percent of the selling price, with a minimum of \$1 and an upper limit of \$50. For non-members the commission is 15 percent, and no upper limit. Any item that does not reach its reserve (a minimum selling price set by the seller) or any item that does not receive the \$10 opening bid will incur a no-sale fee of \$1. While sellers may specify a reserve price, lest we inhibit bidding, we mention the reserve price only in cases where the last bid has failed to reach the reserve, in which case we give the highest bidder an opportunity to up the bid (or let the seller drop the reserve price).

For the main auction, consignment cutoff is at 11:30 am, 30 minutes before the start of the auction. MAARC reserves the right to terminate consignment early if the number of items becomes too large. By the 11:30 cutoff, all paperwork must be turned in and all items tagged and in the pre-auction area. **Once the auction starts, only auction staff are allowed in the consignment and pickup areas.** MAARC also reserves the right to limit the number of items consigned by one individual if the total number of items consigned is becoming too large. Once an item is consigned, the consigner may not remove it, or any portion of a box lot, from the auction. Due to their size, the auctions will not be held up for last minute viewing. Review auction items before the auction commences.

DO NOT leave the auction before all of your items are sold and you have retrieved all items you have purchased! If a consigner does not pick up an unsold item at the end of the auction, or if a buyer does not take home a purchased item, it becomes the property of MAARC and may be discarded or sold at a future auction, with the proceeds going to MAARC.

A Nearby Museum to Visit

National Capital Radio & Television Museum
2608 Mitchellville Road
Bowie, MD 20716

The National Capital Radio & Television Museum (www.ncrtv.org) is ~12 miles from the Crowne Plaza. The Museum will be open Friday (9 to 4) and Saturday and Sunday (Noon to 4). Free parking. Admission: Adults \$7, Seniors \$5. Exhibits feature consumer radios and television.

Registration Desk Hours:

Thursday (4th): 5 to 7 pm
Friday (5th): 7 am to 4 pm, with some breaks
Saturday (6th): 7 to 8, and 9 to 10 am

Annapolis Crowne Plaza Hotel
173 Jennifer Road, Annapolis, MD 21401

You are responsible for booking your own reservation. Our special rate negotiated with the hotel will likely be less than rates from web reservation services. Call the hotel at 1-800-227-6963, and to get the special room rate, specify that you are reserving for the Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club June 2026 Conference Event. **Cutoff date for hotel reservations is May 4.** After that date you may still be able to book, but might have to pay a higher rate. **Notify us (info@maarc.org) once you have booked your room, because the number of rooms booked affects the fees we pay the hotel.** Any room cancellations must occur a minimum of 24 hours in advance.

On or prior to May 15, 2026 complete, detach, and mail the lower part of this preregistration form **(with checks made payable to MAARC)** to:

Rod Matzko, 3 Coloma Court, Sterling, VA 20164-5507, 703-406-2713, r2wb@comcast.net

Use a separate form for each registrant. You will NOT receive a registration confirmation in the mail. **After May 15** you must register at the conference at a higher price.
 Spouses/children do not need to register. Do NOT send membership renewals along with your registration.



Detach Here and send to Rod Matzko

Item	Fee	Amount Enclosed
MAARC member family registration mailed on or before May 15 (MAARC member registration at the meet will be \$30)	\$25	
Non-member family registration mailed on or before May 15 (Non-member registration at the meet will be \$40)	\$35	
Registration (member or non-member) for Saturday ONLY	\$15	
Parking lot flea market spaces in vendor parking area Total number of spaces wanted [____]	First two outdoor spaces \$20, \$10 for each additional space	
Saturday only parking lot flea market spaces. Number of spaces [____]	First two outdoor spaces \$10, \$10 for each additional space	
Indoor 6-foot vendor table (table provided) for Friday, and for Saturday morning ending at 10 am Number of tables [____]	\$30 first table \$10 each additional table	
Indoor 6-foot vendor table (table provided) for Saturday morning only, ending at 10 am IF AVAILABLE! Number of tables [____]	\$15 each table	
Banquet tickets: Number of tickets [____] (Tickets may or may not be available at the meet.)	\$49 per ticket	
Total enclosed. Make check payable to MAARC.		

Name _____ Email Address _____
(Print name neatly as you want it on your name tag.)

Names of other family members attending _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone (_____) _____

Hotel you are staying at _____ **4**