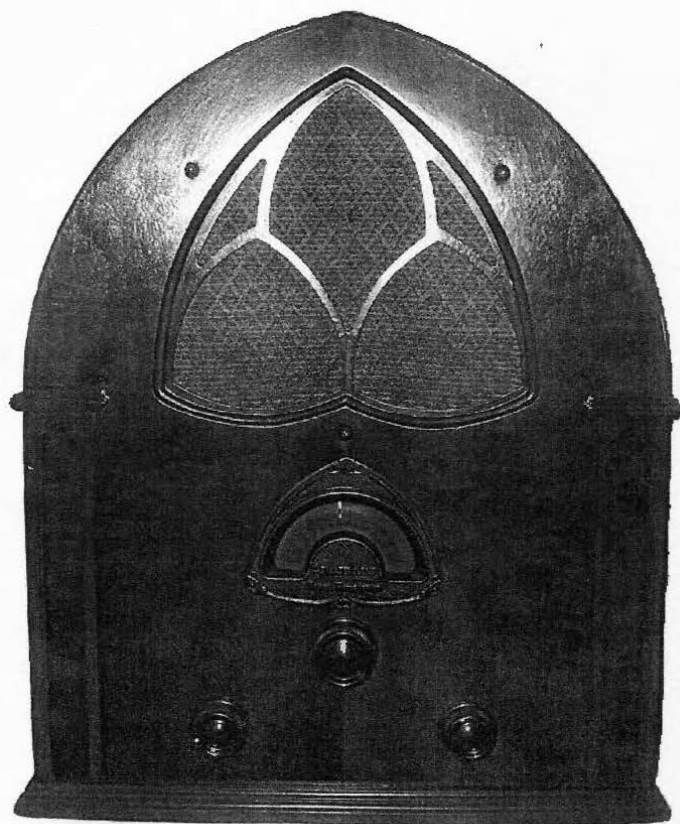


The MAARC Story





The first two original members of MAARC. Ted Hannah, left, and Joe Koester.



The home of Joe Koester, in Laurel, Maryland, where he and Ted Hannah conceived MAARC and where the first meeting was held.

THE MID-ATLANTIC.ANTIQUE RADIO CLUB (MAARC) STORY

The Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club (MAARC) was organized and established at the home of Joseph W. Koester, at 249 Spring Gap South, in Laurel Maryland, on July 14, 1984.

The Club was formed due to the efforts and determination of Joe Koester and Ted Hannah. Joe and Ted worked at the same agency and had been "radio buddies" for about five years when they got the idea to form an official club. To see that idea become a reality, they sent invitations on June 15, 1984 to those few persons who they knew shared a common interest in radio or television preservation. Between the two of them, they knew of twenty-two persons who had some degree of involvement in antique radios and sent out invitations on June 15, 1984 for them to meet at Joe's home in Laurel on Saturday evening, July 14, 1984.

Fifteen of the twenty-two who had been invited attended the initial meeting. Of the fifteen who attended were: Brian Belanger, Charles Brunnelson, Ed Burns, Tom Celantonio, Dave Frohman, Ted Hannah, George Amner, Glenn Hartong, Dwight Heasty, Don Hunter, Joe Koester, Norm Messerschmidt, and Emmett Smith.

At this first meeting, the name Mid-Atlantic Antique Radio Club was chosen as the official name of the club, although the name Chesapeake Antique Radio Society (CARS) was a close second.

Joe Koester was elected president; Brian Belanger, Membership Chairman; and Ted Hannah, Recording Secretary. Twelve of those present joined the club at the initial meeting.

There is no record of any club, confederation, or group of radio collectors in the Baltimore/Washington area prior to 1984. It has been said that a few persons in Northern Virginia had tried to create a club before MAARC, but it never got off the ground.

Notifications of the July 14 meeting and an information sheet (which could also be used for a membership application) were mailed in early July.

Letters were sent to "The Antique Radio Club of America" and "The Antique Wireless Association" advising them of the forming of the MAARC and requesting information on our affiliating with these two national

organizations. Notifications were also placed in the publications of both of these organizations to advise would-be members of our existence.

Similar ads were placed in the "AUTOCALL" Magazine.

The next meeting of the MAARC was scheduled for Friday, August 17, at 8:00pm at the Koester's home in Laurel, MD. Featured at this meeting was Ken McIntosh, an avid collector of television sets, who discussed the history of television and television sets. Members were encouraged to bring a favorite radio or piece of equipment to sell or swap, or for "show and tell."

Suggestions were welcomed regarding the operation of the MAARC, as we want to make it an enduring organization that accurately serves the membership.

The goals of MAARC were outlined as follows:

To exchange information, techniques and material;

To hold swap meets or auctions;

To explore the possibility of purchasing parts in quantity at reduced prices;

To generally further our knowledge of radio, radio companies, and radio history

When Gerry Schneider volunteered to serve as Club treasurer, the Slate of officers for the club was complete.

There were 25 people in attendance at the second meeting on August 1st 1984, and we had our very first presentation on The Evolution of Television. Ed Bums introduced Ed Kennedy, a relative of Colin P. Kennedy, a pioneer manufacturer of quality radios.

By the third meeting on September 22, we had 22 members in attendance, in October, MAARC had 40 members in attendance. The rest of MAARC's growth history: 106 members at the end of the first year, 206 the second, and 307 the third year.

The monthly newsletters were typed up by Mrs. Kathy Koester (Joe's wife) through December 1985. Jon Cohen gave it a new professional look in January 1986, a look the newsletter continued through the life of the old Blue Bomber (May 1994). Ted Hannah must have edited 10 jillion words for all but the very earliest newsletter.

Steve Snyderman's idea and Lloyd Kendall's negotiations brought us the New Radio Age.

As MAARC membership grew, so did the requirement for more space.

Meetings were moved from 249 Spring Gap (Joe's house), Laurel, MD, to the Sharp Street United Methodist Church (Pastored by our member, Rev. Maurice Moore), then to the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab, and from there to the New Hope Seventh Day Adventist Church in Burtonsville, where we currently hold our monthly meetings thanks to Gene Gardner.

PAST PRESIDENTS

1. Joseph W. Koester
(VP Edwin Lyon)
2. Lloyd Kendel
(VP Ed Lyon)
3. Samuel Caanan
(Johanthan Cohen, Ed Lyon)
4. Edwin Lyon
(Geof Scherer)

**MID-ATLANTIC
ANTIQUE
RADIO CLUB**

MAARC's Early Board of Directors and Officers:

President

Joe Koester
249 Spring Gap South
Laurel, MD 20724
(301)725-4229

Vice President

Ed Lyon
11301 Woodland Way
Myersville, MD 21773
(301)293-1773

Treasurer

Gerald Schneider
3101 Blueford Road
Kensington, MD 20895
(301)929-8593

Membership Chair

Roy Morgan
P.O. Box 1362
Washington Grove, MD 20880
(301)330-8828

Newsletter Editor

Brian Belanger
616 Nelson Street
Rockville, MD 20850
(301)340-9020

Newsletter Editor

Randolph Warren
PO Box 15424
Arlington, VA 22215
(703)241-4904

Librarian

Michael Prosis
3658 Daisy Road
Daisy, MD 21797
(301)854-6205

Newsletter Distribution

Steve Fick
PO Box 178
Washington Grove, MD 20880
(301)869-1748

Directors

Gary Alley
(703)569-8964

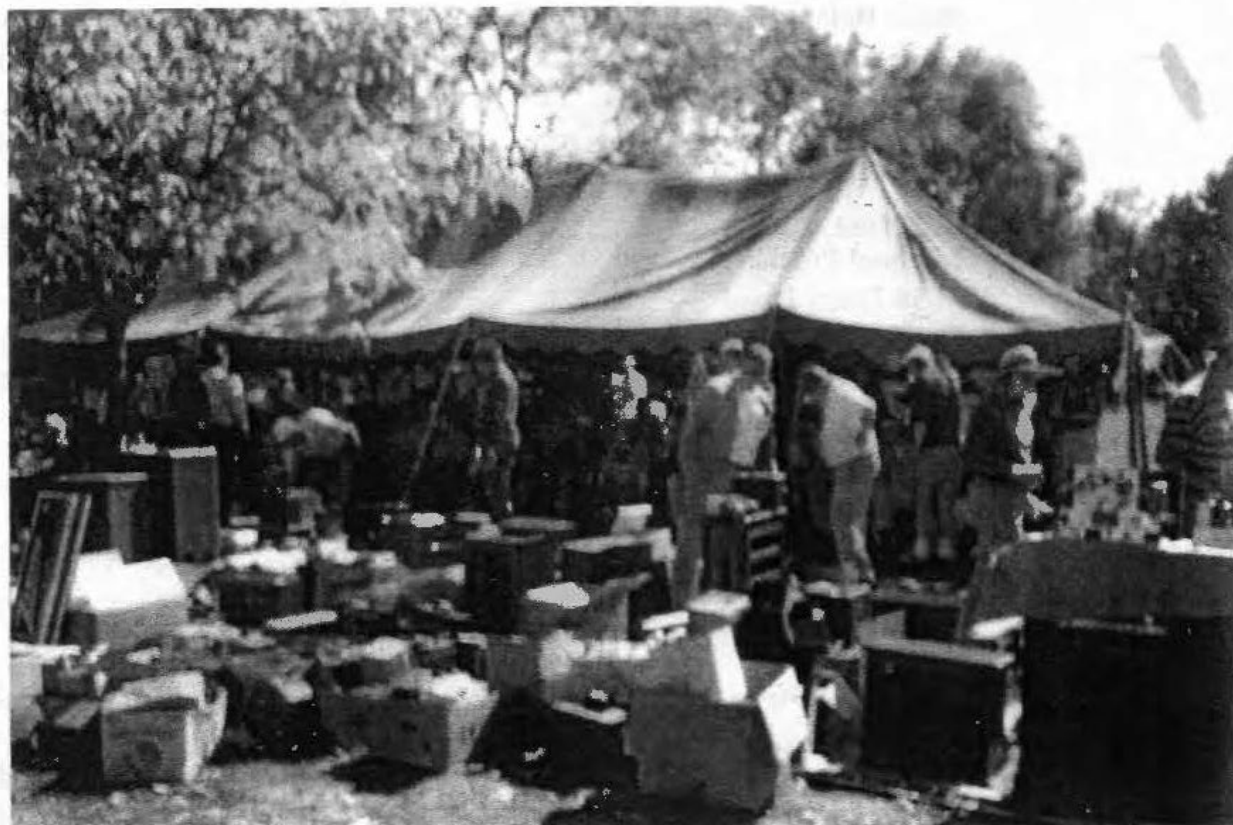
John England
(703)548-2952

Eugene Gardner
(301)384-1098

Marty Mintzell
(703)569-2380

Linda Richard
(301)421-1637

Lawrence Williams
(301)449-7559



The last MAARC annual picnic held at the farm of Ed and Millie Lyon in Myersville, Maryland.

Acknowledgments

My most sincere thanks to the following people, all of them members of MAARC:

Ted Hannah;
Glenn Hartong;
Joe Koester (first president of MAARC);
Reverend Maurice Moore;
Gerald Schneider;

and my daughter, Tobiet Sessoms, who had the patience to read my writing.

I couldn't have done this without your help.


Willie L. Sessoms