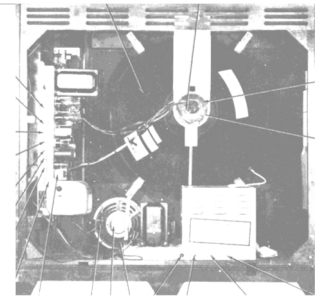
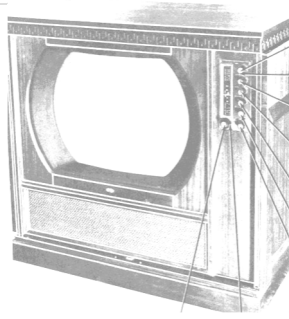


September 2026

Volume 4 Number 1



WHAT'S NEW IN OLD TVS

The Newsletter of the Early Television Foundation

Greetings Early Television Fans,

This is Volume 4, Number 1 of the Early Television Foundation Newsletter. **The next Zoom meeting is on September 26 at 8 PM . Newcomers Always Welcome**

Summer is turning to Fall and it has been interesting hearing from members during the zoom meetings, telling about the weather in their parts of the country. I think the one phrase that all had in common was lousy. So now is a great time to heat up the old soldering iron and restore some TVs. Better yet, travel to Hilliard and attend the Fall swap meet and auction on October 17 from 10 AM to 2 PM and there's no charge. The Auction is at 1 PM and sweepstakes drawing at 2 PM. Saturday afternoon and Sunday are work days at the museum so please help if you can.

Steve reports that the opportunity for the museum to move to a bigger and better facility is again moving ahead and we should know more soon. Also, your editors plea for members to contribute to the newsletter is getting results, starting in this issue.

Read on.

We want to hear from you !

Newsletter@earlytelevision.org
Editors: Mike Molnar & Robert Ring

ETF Board of Directors

Dave Abramson
Chuck Conrad
James O'Neal
Dave Arland
Geoff Bourne
Bob Dobush
Dave Sica (Secretary)
Matt D'Asaro
Blake Hinkle
Dan Jones
Al Hagovsky
Mike Molnar
Steve McVoy
(President, Treasurer)

In This Issue:

Buy sweepstakes tickets for the 21-CT-55 21" color TV

Rich Hronik tells us more about the RCA serviceman awards from the Mid 1950s

Tom Morehouse shares his memories of his father bringing home an RCA CT100 COLOR TV

Join or Renew your Membership

Many 2025 members need to renew

We are always looking for:

- **Letters** from members
- **Tech Tips** from service experiences
- **My first TV** (family stories?)
- **My favorite TV** (and why)
- **Stories** of working in the business.
- **Articles** that can be added in whole or in parts.

This Year's Sweepstakes Grand Prize The RCA 21-CT-55

RCA **COLOR** TV with 21AXP22 CRT

This RCA Model as well as the RCA CTC 4 and CTC 5 stressed the technology of their time and thus required a lot of service. See how RCA honored these service technicians on the next page.



ETF Member Rich Hronik writes us to share more information about the RCA National Television Serviceman Award

The August issue's article on the RCA serviceman's award was particularly interesting to me. I purchased the attached magazine ads some years ago at a couple of antique stores.

I didn't understand the scope of the recognition that RCA did for servicemen. I certainly didn't think that actual trophies were awarded!

Celebrating a Great Partnership

*RCA and the
Independent Service
Dealers of the U.S.A.
...in business together,
to serve you!*



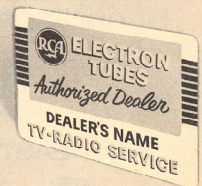
Official symbol of
National Television
Servicemen's Week

National Television Servicemen's Week—March 25-30

To honor the thousands of skilled TV service technicians from coast to coast, RCA proudly observes the 3rd Annual National Television Servicemen's Week.

Your television service technician earns the respect of your community through his vital contribution to your family's entertainment and education. Thanks in great part to his skill and technical knowledge, and the good judgment he displays in using such top-quality products as RCA "Silverama" Super-Aluminized Picture Tubes and RCA Receiving Tubes, the miracle of sparkling television is at your fingertips, day in and day out.

Join with RCA in saluting *your* neighborhood television technician—a professional businessman of high integrity engaged in one of the nation's fastest growing industries.



To be certain of TV service with genuine RCA Tubes, do business with the neighborhood technician who displays this sign.



RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA
Tube Division
Harrison, New Jersey



A TRIBUTE

*RCA SALUTES YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD
TELEVISION TECHNICIAN
DURING NATIONAL TELEVISION
SERVICEMEN'S WEEK MARCH 7-12*

Have you ever thought how much your TV serviceman contributes to your home entertainment? He puts in long hours to keep abreast of a rapidly growing and increasingly complex business. He stands by for your call.

Thanks to his expert knowledge and friendly service, you and your family enjoy the miracle of television day in and day out.

And, he merits your confidence by using products of unquestioned quality, such as RCA Receiving Tubes and RCA Picture Tubes.

In honor of your local television serviceman, and the thousands like him from coast to coast, RCA proclaims National Television Servicemen's Week, March 7-12.

Look for this symbol at your local TV store or shop. It indicates participation in this nation-wide event by the leading television dealers and servicemen in your neighborhood.

RCA
A TRIBUTE TO THE NATION'S TELEVISION SERVICE TECHNICIANS FOR THEIR TREMENDOUS ACCOMPLISHMENT IN INSTALLING AND SERVICING THE 30 MILLION TV SETS NOW IN ACTIVE USE.
NATIONAL TELEVISION SERVICEMEN'S WEEK
MARCH 7-12, 1955

RCA
RADIO CORPORATION of AMERICA
ELECTRON TUBES
HARRISON, N. J.

The base of the trophy on one ad is dated 1955, and the text of the other ad says it's the third Servicemen's week, which would make that 1957 (a bit of Googling shows that the dates on that ad correlate to Monday-Saturday, same as the '55 dates do, so '57 fits).

Rich Hronik,
Leesburg, VA

This was submitted by member Tom Morehouse

I thought you might enjoy my memories of our first color television, a CT-100.

It's summer of 1956. Our unairconditioned house in Fort Worth Texas has become a hotbox, especially in the "family room" which held our 1948 Admiral floor model. The Admiral had only recently replaced our previous RCA 621. Dad had brought a friend from the office to help him move a "big box" from the station wagon into our house. Mom, me, and my brother naturally wanted to watch the mystery object's arrival.



Lo and behold - it's a CT-100. Golly - a color television. Dad had been a radar tech during WW2 and understood CRT systems. He loved "new tech", and when he saw the previously priced \$1000 set marked down to \$149.00, he snatched it up. Apparently no one was buying the 15" sets, when the 21" sets were popping up in most TV/Radio shops.

We moved the Admiral into my and my brother's bedroom. Yippee! Science Fiction Theater in our own room! The RCA took its place of honor in the family room. Dad and his friend unpacked the set, read some instructions, plugged it in, chose Channel 5 (the NBC affiliate) and watched a picture of the evening news - in fuzzy black and white. We didn't find any color shows that night.

Next day, neighbors started coming over to see the set. Dad invited them to return after dinner, to watch Your Hit Parade in color.

We must have had a dozen people staring at the screen that night when Your Hit Parade appeared on the screen, preceded of course by the multi-color peacock. Dad played with all the control knobs, including Focus and Convergence, and the picture was quite respectable. I remember Mitch Miller and his chorus singing Autumn Leaves, and the colors of the (fake) leaves falling around them were breathtaking.

Our neighbors were duly impressed! After the show ended, there were a few commercials (b/w), and dad said the neighbors could stay to watch Dragnet. When the show came on, the colors were horrible. Green sky, fuzzy purple and yellow faces, all pretty bad. Dad did lots of knob turning, but no luck. He finally called the station and asked what's wrong with the colors on Dragnet.

He burst out laughing and hung up the phone. Dragnet was a black and white show.

Good memories!

Tom Morehouse, Eastford CT

(Share more stories with us, newsletter@earlytelevision.org)

