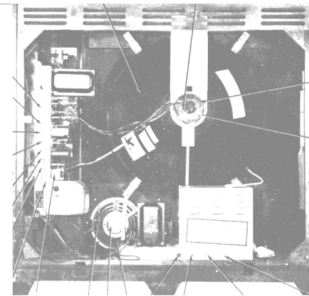
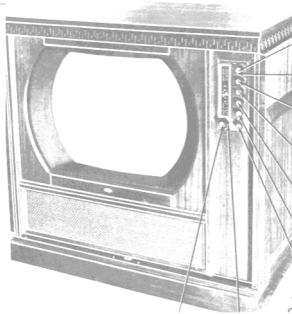


April, 2025

Volume 2 Number 4



# WHAT'S NEW IN OLD TVS

## The Newsletter of the Early Television Foundation

Greetings Early Television Fans,

This is Volume 2, Number 4 of the Early Television Foundation Newsletter. **The April Zoom meeting will be on Saturday, April 26th at 8 PM and The Early Television Foundation 2025 Convention is coming soon !!! May 2,3,4** at the museum in Hilliard, Ohio. Steve began the meeting with his Museum Report by telling us that convention planning is going well and registrations are ahead of last year with a number of new attendees as well as some old timers.

He also told us about the new acquisitions coming to the Museum in time for the convention. One is a Sylvania Color TV with a slide show presentation device. The second is the very rare 1938 GE GM295 prewar mirror in the lid TV, one of three known to exist. These are good reasons to make the trip to the convention in Hilliard.

**We Want to hear from you !**

[newsletter@earlytelevision.org](mailto:newsletter@earlytelevision.org)

**Editors: Mike Molnar and  
Robert Ring**

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### In this issue:

**We have a great letter from member John D. Foell as he tells us of his families first two color TVs**

**A letter about the Voice of America stations from a man who was there,  
James O'Neal**

**Photos of past conventions**

### Renew your 2025 Membership

**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.
- **Biographies** of members

It may be hard to believe but some members have not renewed for 2025.

Perhaps they don't understand the serious repercussions that may follow. These unfortunate people will now have to wait an extra month before they can read,

### ***What's New in Old TV's***

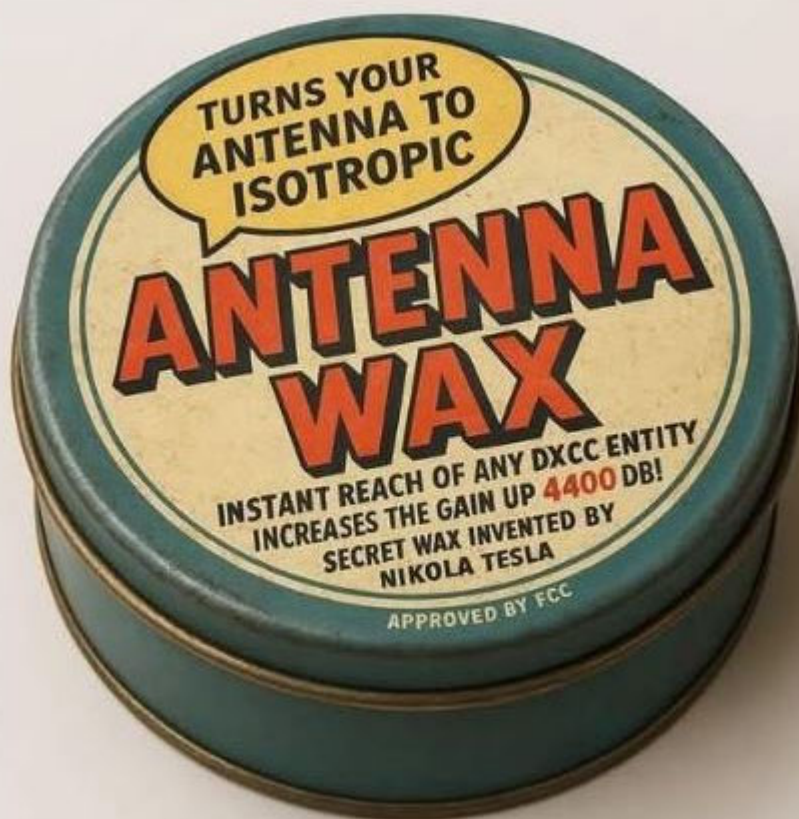
As they say on the commercials .. .. .

“To avoid disappointment and future regret”

**RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW !!!**

And where else  
can you find out  
about products  
like this >>>>>

Just say no  
to snow !!



This Month we received a letter from a member,  
John D. Foell, who shares his memories of his  
families first color TVs from way back when  
**Color TV** pictures were round

### My First - and Second Colour TV

I came from a family of 8 kids and my parents - half the family smoked (my dad was one) and half did not (my mom was one). I was your typical geeky kid in the 1960s and '70s - no computers about to waste time on so I fixed radios and TV sets in our little upstate NY town. After several years of keeping a Magnavox colour set (RCA CTC-11 chassis) going for a couple, they gave it to me and I put it in my bedroom - no smokers allowed. Ticked off my dad but my mom loved it. Pop was stuck watching the B&W Panasonic in the living room.

About 6 months later I rescued an RCA CTC-16 from the town dump and got it going. I installed it one evening in place of the Panasonic. Pop had been out with the Knights of Columbus gang and was "feeling no pain" and probably didn't notice when I said, "Hey Pop - Colour TV down here!". He went to bed. For the next bit one has to remember the difference in depth of a 19-inch Panasonic B&W and an RCA 21-inch round tube in a metal cabinet. The set was right outside my parents bedroom door (in the living room). Next morning I am slowly waking up and BOOM! followed by a "John you get your butt - OK he said a\$\$ - down here". He had walked right into the corner of that metal cabinet and "disturbed" certain delicate parts of his anatomy. Needless to say I took my time getting down and by that time he was ensconced in his chair and watching the Bugs Bunny / Road Runner hour. That little tale has become part of our family lore.



We had 7 remote controls for that RCA - my 7 brothers and sisters. As it was my set, I was able to shuck channel changing duty. I had both the Magnavox and the RCA up till about 25 years ago - they still worked but I couldn't find space for them in our last move. I kept my parents in TVs, etc. till the early 90s but the 625 mile service calls - Indiana to New York - got to be too much so us "kids" went together and got them a TV and a stereo Hi-Fi set. The interest in radios and TVs took me to college and to a career in radio at Bell Telephone Laboratories and Magnavox/Raytheon.

John D. Foell, PE (Ret.)

Those round color sets can make almost any living room seem small.



I'm happy to say James O'Neal has given us more information about the VOA display at the AWA museum.

His letter is printed below



Hello Mile and Robert:

I just had a look at the March newsletter, and while the description of the "control room" at the AWA Museum is better, it still doesn't accurately describe what is depicted.

The gear in the picture was rescued from the (former) VOA's (former) Delano, Calif. shortwave relay station control room. (Some of the gear that would have been used in day-to-day operations is rather conspicuously missing.) As I think I pointed out in my previous email, I spent many hours at the Delano facility (months actually) in completing a long-term project, and got to know every inch of the facility and all of its employees.

No one at the Delano ever referred to it as "a main control room," as "main" would imply that there was at least one "lesser" CR. Also, the "main" control room for all of the VOA operations (located on the other side of the continent has (had) only facility (CR) for transmitting/monitoring feeds to the numerous relay stations and other recipients of VOA programming around the world. That facility was never called the "main" control room either. It was designated "master control."

(I should point out too that each of the separate domestic and overseas VOA relay stations had its own control room, and there was never more than one at each facility, so "main" is a misnomer.)

Hate to be a nitpicker, but I feel that accuracy is very important in documenting anything that was part of the Voice of America, now that this 83-year-old beacon of truth has been written out of existence and can no longer speak for itself.

Best, James O'Neal





The Story of  
“Radio Pictures for the Home”  
will continue next month



To entice you to attend this years Convention  
you can take a look at some of the highlights  
from past conventions, going back to 2003



2008



Color TV's Alphabet Soup  
- Or, how NTSC Begat SECAM, PAL  
and Their Descendants

John Pinckney

2008 Early Television Convention  
Hilliard, Ohio U.S.A.

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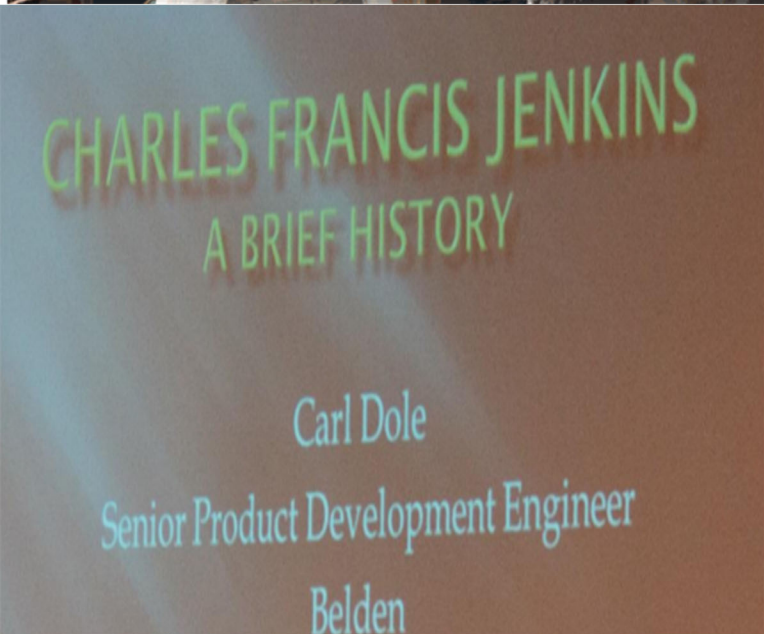
# Television in the 1920s

Early Television Museum – May 2015

Brian Belanger  
Curator  
National Capital Radio & Television Museum











**SEE YOU IN HILLIARD !!**