

At The Mic

by Floyd Soo, W8RO - President CCA
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Wow! Summer sure was short! Dayton has come and gone for 2005 and plans were in progress for Dayton 2006 just days after. We will be changing locations to the Holiday Inn Dayton North for 2006. This Holiday Inn is the one at Wagoner Ford Rd. and I-75. It is closer and more convenient as far as access to Hara Arena is concerned AND they have a couple of free shuttles that run there and back regularly! The staff there has been very helpful and we already have arrangements made for our group to gather there next year.

As far as Dayton is concerned, Tony Sokol, W9JXN, has been the Dayton Chairman for the past several years. Rich Sperling, WB3JLK, is taking over that position for 2006. Tony has already begun transitioning Rich into the "driver's seat" with regard to next year's event. I want to thank Tony for the fabulous job he has done with the CCA Dayton events. He and his support staff really pulled off some great banquets and presentations for our benefit! Tony has promised to help Rich any way he can, so I believe that you'll see Tony around in 2006 in more of the support capacity (I know he enjoyed it, so he won't just give it up!). Please let both Tony and Rich know how much their volunteering to take on these responsibilities is appreciated by all of you!

Another CCA event that is still in the works is the Hammond Museum Tour and Special Event. This event will be a long weekend (date to be determined) in Guelph, Ontario, Canada (45 minutes west of Toronto). CCA member Fred Hammond's (VE3HC) pet project when he was alive was his museum. It's a spectacular collection of all kinds of radio and radio-related equipment. It's truly a "hands-on" museum, so it's okay to spin the knobs and look under the hood! There are also several operating positions at the museum with classic Collins gear ready to go on the air (including a PAIR of KW-1s!). Nori Irwin, VE3AQZ, is the curator; she and her staff have always rolled out the red carpet for visitors, especially CCA members. Don't miss this very special visit there, as we plan on firing up the KW-1s along with all the other Collins gear. I want to thank Fred Holmes, W1SKU, and Scott Madison, WN1B, for volunteering to assist me in getting the Collins gear in GWO. Nori has been ecstatic to have the three of us CCA members there on a semi-regular basis assisting with the gear (Collins and non-Collins) in the operating room. This fall, we plan on lighting up a bunch of tubes there! Stay tuned for further details.

The Collins Collectors Association will be electing two members to its Board of Directors during the month of November. If you have anyone whom you would like to nominate for one of the Board of Directors slots, please

contact Robert Turner, W5APN, at rwtur@jonesday.com or call Robert at (214) 969-2984. These elections are very important, as they are the chief means a member has to take part in the decision-making process. Last year we had a very good turn out for the balloting, and we hope to see that high level of participation again this year. Please vote!

Hope to catch you all on the air. Have a great autumn! TNX es 73 de W8RO. 


On the Workbench

by Dutch Maurer, WB7DYW
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For those of you who have an early 32S-1 transmitter and want to operate CW but notice it does not operate VOX here are a few things to check out. Let's start with the obvious, tubes. Check the tubes on a reliable tube tester or try swapping them with new or known good tubes; the likely suspects are V14 (12AT7) V10 (6AL5) and V11 (6U8). The next step is to go to the tube voltage chart in the manual and check the voltages and resistance on these tubes. To save a little time let's start with V11 pin 8.

According to the manual you should have +5 Volts DC at pin 8 but instead you may see as much as 35 or 40 Volts. STOP right there; look at the schematic and you will see two 68K 5 watt resistors in parallel going from the +275 volt supply to pin 8 thru those resistors and if you should touch them you will get a nasty burn. They are VERY hot.

So imagine they have been cooking like that for the last 40 years and ask yourself if they may have changed in value just a little and keep in mind the line voltage is a lot higher now than it was back in the early 60's. One answer is to replace the 68K resistors with higher a value to get closer to the original +5 Volts needed to turn on the relay again (keep in mind they are dropping +275 down to +5 SO USE AT LEAST 5 WATT RESISTORS). Other components may also be a little out of tolerance and it is wise to check V14 & V10 also to see if the components are still within range. Again use the voltage & resistance chart in the manual. It is also a good idea to check the +275 Volt line to be sure it is still +275 Volts and if not then check the power supply as a lot of things are affected by the +274 Volt line. These are great old transmitters but because of the age things change and part of keeping them on the air is understanding how heat and time affect old tube rigs. Kinda makes ya want to put a small muffin fan on the top to cool them down just a little.

As always, if I can help you, please send me an email. 73's Dutch. 

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- Sunday 14.263 mHz at 2000Z
- Tuesday 3805 kHz at 8pm CST
- Thursday 3872 kHz at 8pm CST
- Friday (West Coast) 3895 kHz at 10pm CST
- Sunday 10m AM 29.050 mHz at Noon CST
- 1st Wednesday AM 3885 kHz at 8pm CST

Sunday for Technical, Buy, Sell & Swap
Tues., Thurs., Fri., & Sunday for Ragchew

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 - The R-390A Video
 - The Collins Amateur Radio Equipment Video Spotter's Guide
 - The Collins 75A-4 Video
 - The Collins KWS-1 Video
 - The Collins KWM-2 Video
 - The Collins 75S-3 / 32S-3 Video
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- also the PDC-1 kit that converts ANY average reading wattmeter to true PEAK READING even the Bird 43!

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