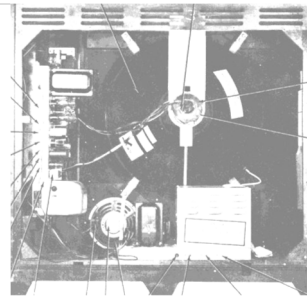
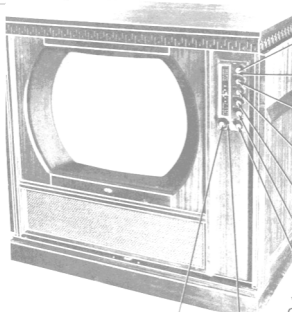


November 2025

Volume 2 Number 11



WHAT'S NEW IN OLD TVS

The Newsletter of the Early Television Foundation

Greetings Early Television Fans,

This is Volume 2, Number 11 of the Early Television Foundation Newsletter. **The November Zoom meeting will be on Saturday, November 29th at 8 PM.**

If you missed the October Zoom meeting, you missed a lot. Check it out on YouTube. In Steve's Museum Report we heard about the fall swap-meet. The weather cooperated and Steve tells us that the volunteers helped get the CRTs and TVs arranged in the back and things there are now looking good. Before the open discussion there were three presentations. First video game enthusiast Matt D'Asaro gave us an update on the video game display and his other projects. Then I gave a brief report on the AWA (Antique Wireless Association) conference where three ETF members had winning entries in the old equipment contest, from tiny TVs early CRTs, TV accessories and an Iconoscope camera. If that wasn't enough Chuck Conrad took us through restoration of a TV remote truck at the Texas Broadcast Museum. See it all on YouTube.

We want to hear from you !

newsletter@earlytelevision.org

Board of Directors Early Television Foundation

Dave Abramson
Chuck Conrad
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Dave Arland
Geoff Bourne
Bob Dobush
Dave Sica (Secretary)
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Blake Hinkle
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In This Issue:

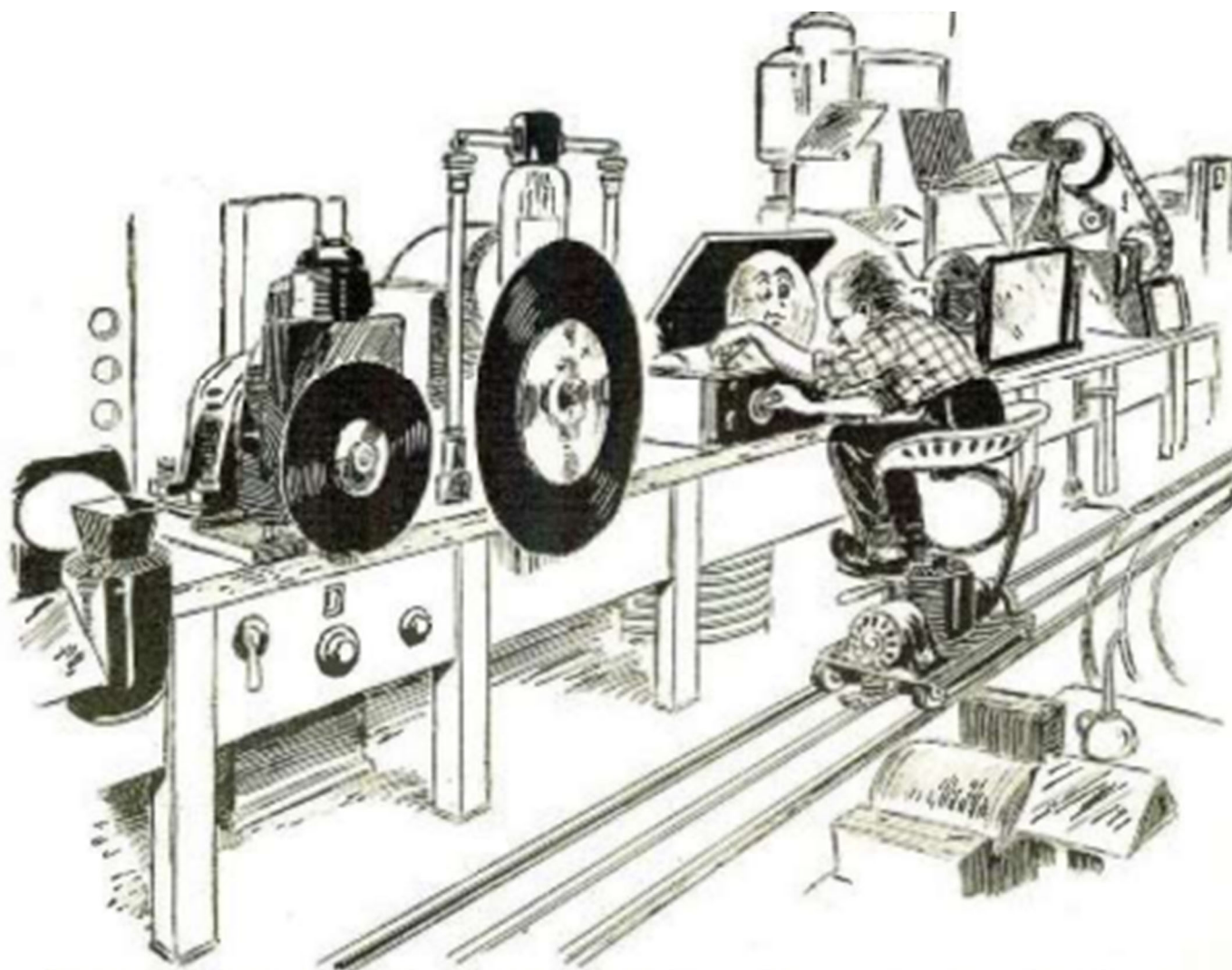
Dave Arland takes us on a tour of his early television collection and tells us how some of these early pieces came his way.

**Join or Renew
your Membership
NOW.**

**See the details on
the website**

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.



The paradise—or will it be purgatory?—of the radio experimenter who tries to keep up with everything new in radio imagery. (Drawn from imagination.)

Coming Up Next

Dave Arland takes us on a tour of his
wonderful collection.

Collaboration Built My Collection

By Dave Arland

My interest in early TV began with the opportunity to work for Thomson Consumer Electronics, an odyssey that began in late 1991. By that time, RCA had been absorbed by GE and the consumer electronics business was subsequently sold to Thomson of France. The RCA and GE names were licensed by Thomson, which celebrated production of the 50 millionth color TV at its Bloomington, Indiana factory in 1989.

My collection is built on collaboration with engineers and restorers I've met at the Early TV Museum through the years, and I'm honored to serve on the museum's Board of Directors.



Dave Arland (left) with longtime friend Nipper, the RCA Victor Dog, who is now on loan to the museum.

The first leap into vintage electronics came with the chance to purchase a once-working CT-100 from an Ohio doctor who'd kept the set since using it as his "daily viewer" in the early 1960's.

The delicate original picture tube was still good, and I sent the very heavy chassis to Steve Kissinger's workshop in California for restoration. That project was eventually finished by Pete Desknis in Michigan, with the help of former RCA engineer Ed Milbourn. It was truly thrilling to see color TV come to life on vintage phosphors through the massive chassis.



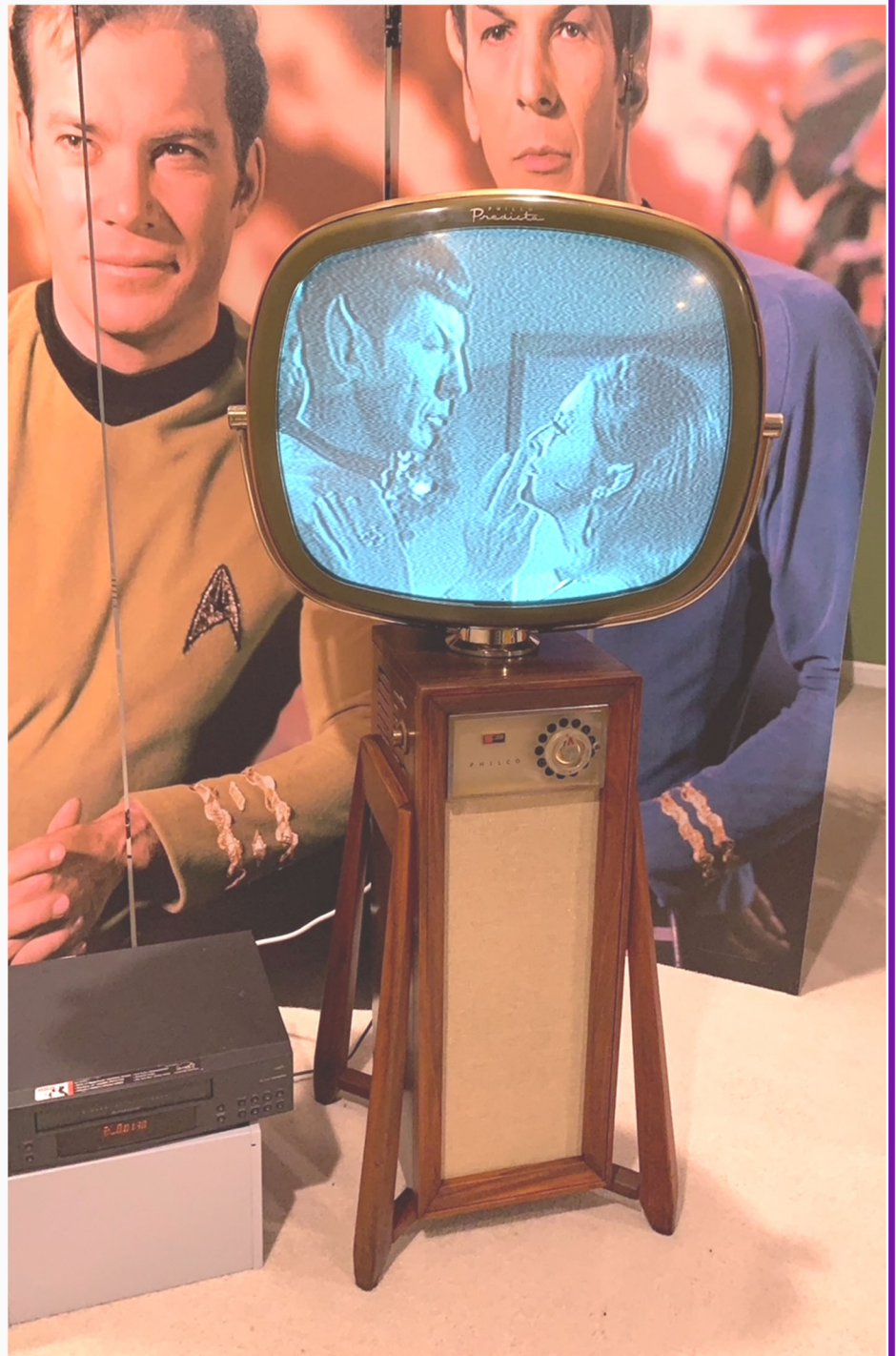
One of the few RCA CT-100 Color television sets that is still in working order.

Blake Hinkle offered me the opportunity to purchase an even rarer 1954 color set, the RCA 21CT55 a few years later, and I'm grateful to both Tom Carlson for the electronic restoration of that set's chassis and to magician furniture restorer Greg Ziesemer, who restored the mahogany cabinet.



Restored and working, the RCA 21CT55 dates from late 1954.

I met Larry Whitlock at an Early TV Convention and asked him to restore the chassis of a rare Predicta Continental, which had set in a cold and wet garage for some time. My furniture restorer stripped off the printed woodgrain that was already peeling from the Predicta's cabinet and replaced it with mahogany veneers that really shine.



The 1960 Predicta Continental was the last in the long line of Predicta models.



The RCA Two Thousand was purchased during an Early TV Museum sale, and after it was refinished the set fired right up (with the help of a variac, for safety.) Only 2,000 of the RCA Two Thousand sets were made in 1969, and they sold for \$2,000 at that time — the equivalent of more than \$18,000 in today's money!



RCA TRK-12

Only the very wealthy could afford a TV in 1939, such as this RCA TRK-12.

This unusual set was supposedly built for the palace of the Shah of Iran in 1976.



Our Thanks to Dave Arland for sharing his wonderful collection with our ETF members.