

The Bendix E-Beam

*News from the Bendix Radio Foundation
working for the Preservation and Presentation of the History of
the Bendix Radio Division and Bendix/AlliedSignal Communications Division.*

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We, the BRF volunteers, would like to express our deepest thanks for your continuing support of the BRF's efforts to document the history of the Bendix Radio Division and Bendix/AlliedSignal Communications Division.

Website Up and Running <http://www.bendixradiofoundation.com/> *by Bill Mackey*

Please take some time to scope out all the sections of the website and see what is really there. A definite trip down memory lane for everyone will be experienced. We welcome any and all comments, especially what would be of interest to our members to see added.

We have been a little slow in getting updates and correction posted but we now are up to date. Several new additions including the Artifact Database and our revised Facilities Listing will soon be added. Also, we are working on getting a site search application installed that will allow searching all files on our website.

New Exhibits Coming to BMI about Bendix.....*by Angelo DelNegro*

Plans are underway by BRF to revise and move the present Bendix Home Radio and Television display into BMI's Communications Room plus create a new expanded BRF Exhibit at a permanent location. BMI plans to assign BRF a location in the main Decker Gallery so we may construct a new, large, vertical display covering the history of Bendix in Baltimore and its many products. We can use your ideas, help, and financial support on this major project to present the best image of Bendix in Baltimore. This activity is scheduled to be accomplished over the next 6 to 9 months.

Collection Additions.....*by Bill Mackey*

Your additional donations are urgently needed now as we are close to being done with the sorting and cataloging of the information received to date. Check your closets, storage boxes, drawers, etc for any Bendix related materials and provide the items to the BRF.

The contributions to the Bendix Radio archival collection during 2009 include the following:

1) Various reports, manuals, personnel lists, periodicals, photos and misc items from eight different contributors.

2) Two major collections were received:

(a) The Bill Kunz Collection which consisted primarily of a large organized History of the Pacific Missile Range (PMR) with many documents, photos, organization charts and personnel lists.

(b) The Grogan Shelor Collection that documents his time with Bendix thru various documents, photos, reports and patents.

NEEDED - The BRF is in need of a Microfiche Digitizer. If anyone knows of any good deals for such an item please let us know. We have a large collection of historic documents only on microfiche and have no way to print or digitize them.

Database and Artifact Logging Activity.....by Bill Mackey & Bill Stotz

BRF reached a major milestone this year when we completed the database entry of all of our boxes of Print memorabilia (146 storage boxes). This database can currently be accessed from the BRF computer in the BRF Archival Room, or In Excel spreadsheet form on the BRF web site.

We have completed all of the Artifact cataloging/database entry. There are currently 44 boxes including four flat-drawing-file drawers for pictures and posters. Artifacts too large or too heavy to put in boxes are stored on open shelves. There are also eight Auto Radio and nine Home Radio/TV artifacts on display in the museum. The current count of artifacts is 530. Because the BMI museum has an Artifact Database using museum software, we have filled out one of their data entry forms for each artifact. They have entered about half of this data into their database and have exported those records as Excel files which we have imported into the BRF database. Each item has been digitally photographed and the pictures are available in our database. Rather than link our photos individually to the records in their database, the BMI has decided to use our database for our artifacts, and stopped entering the data into their database. With the help of another museum volunteer, we have completed the entry into our database. The museum will install the Panorama software and our database file on one of their computers and use it for access to BRF artifact information. We will shortly add this database to our Web site.

Two drawers of microfiche documents were cataloged. These consisted of mostly Instruction Manuals for equipment manufactured between 1935 and 1951. This was indeed a historical find.

The two major efforts remaining to be tackled are the cataloging of many boxes of photographs (79 boxes) and the original drawings we recovered from the Joppa Rd vault. None of the photograph box cataloging has been completed. The cataloging of the drawings is about 20% complete, with about half that entered into the database.

Other database activities include provision for the addition of pictures to the Personnel database, and a Fast Search feature added to the Document database to allow one-step searching of the important fields in the Folder and Document databases. Also a major revision of the Database Handbook is nearly complete. A Facility Listing is now available containing the various site locations occupied over the many years in the Baltimore and other areas. Pictures are included for over half the locations

BMI has agreed to accept the BRF catalog system instead of reentering the BRF collection into the BMI database.

Auto Radio Database.....by Bill Stotz

A new database has been developed providing comprehensive information about the Bendix car radio product line. Each database record lists a radio by part number, the year of manufacture (1948 to 1974), the company and car that it fit, and a description – number of tubes and or transistors, band (AM, FM, Stereo). Most of the information comes from a collection of Service Manuals that BRF acquired. There are currently 495 radios in the database with pictures for 346. There are certainly many missing because we have no information on them. The BRF artifact collection includes 40 auto radios.

Bendix Home Radio/TV Database.....by Bill Stotz

Based on service manuals in our collection and other information, including photographs provided by Aaron Mall, we have created a Bendix Home Radio/TV database. We have listings for 115 radio models, 101 with pictures, and 135 TV models with pictures for 40. The radio listings contain descriptive information about each model including type of radio (AM, AM/FM, Phonograph, etc.), bands covered, cabinet description, etc. The information about the TV's is similar but much less complete. BRF has among its artifacts 15 radios, one radio chassis, and 3 TV's. We periodically receive email requests, via our website, for additional information about a specific type of radio or TV.

Employee Names Database.....by Ken Kidd & Angelo DelNegro & Bill Stotz

The Employee Names Database is a database of the names of employees of the Bendix Radio/Communications Division/AlliedSignal Communications that covers the period from the formation in 1937 to the sale of the division to Raytheon on September 10, 1998.

The database now contains 20,000 entries, obtained from various personnel lists, divisional telephone books, departmental Christmas address lists, issues of the *Bendix Beam* and *The Communicator*, and other publications, and other documents. Because of the variety of input sources, there are multiple entries for many employees.

The biggest problem remaining, other than missing names, is that through a good deal of Bendix history employees were identified with initials only. Any data you have identifying an employee full name will greatly help our effort.

We are still looking for additional **personnel lists** and **organizational charts** which you may have in your files. Let us know.

BRF and BMI Joint Membership.....by Bill Scott

We need your continued support of the BRF through yearly membership and donations. The 2009 BRF and BMI Joint Membership totals 111 members: 39 Family Memberships and 72 Individual Memberships plus an additional 29 persons who made monetary donations. Last year the 2008 membership totaled 119 members. Our database consists of over 1,500 names of former Bendix Radio, Communications, and AlliedSignal in Baltimore employees or friends. A death index is also kept of those persons who have passed away over the various years.

BRF Foundation Board of Directors.....by Bill Scott

The 2008-2011 BRF Board of Directors, elected in June 2008, are: Guil Vogt (3 years), Jerry Woodall (3 years), Joe McCormick (2 year), Len Bosse (2year), and Bill Stotz (2 year).

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BRF COLLECTION
(Actual/Estimated Counts)
 at the
 BRF Archive Storage Facility

530.....Artifacts
 146.....Print File Boxes
 2,680.....Folders
 292,000..Pages
 74.....Published Periodical Series
 1,237.....Issues
 79.....Audio Visual File Boxes
 30,000...Negatives
 5,000.....Pictures
 3,500.....Slides
 100.....Large Motion Picture Reels
 44.....Video Tapes
 4,600.....Drawing Originals
 190,000....Drawing Number Release Cards
 15,000.....Engineer’s Log Book Number Issue Cards
 20.....Photo Albums 2.5” Thick
 2,500 Pictures (Management & Emblem Club functions)
 20,000.....Employee Names/Personnel Data
 60,000.....Microfiche Cards
 72,500.....Aperture Cards
 924.....Manufacturing Specs
 1,123.....Purchasing Specs
 Pictorial History of BRF Exhibits
 3 Exhibits at the BMI
 1 Exhibit at the Historical Electronics Museum

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