

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.

“Bendix Home Radio & Television”---- New Exhibit at BMI ...by Bill Scott

A new BRF exhibit was opened May 2007 at the Baltimore Museum of Industry documenting the “*Bendix Home Radio & Television*” activities from 1946 through 1959. This is the second of BRF's new ‘rotating’ exhibit format at the BMI. Contained within the display are the first and last models of televisions produced by Bendix plus various radio table models and a console radio-phonograph. A “sound feature” was added allowing visitors to press a button and hear old radio stories and advertisements over the console speaker. A binder with Radio and TV model listings and their associated photos and facts is provided for review by visitors. This display complemented the BMI's new exhibit, which opened October 2007, showing “*Charm City T.V.: 60 Years of WMAR-TV in Baltimore*”.

COME SEE IT AT THE BMI !!! (See Photos on Page 4)

Bendix Radio Exhibit at the Historical Electronics Museum.....by Bill Stotz

The Bendix Radio Foundation exhibit from the BMI was on display at the Historical Electronics Museum from mid-December 2006 until August 2007. The display consisted of seven panels from the original BRF exhibit, dealing primarily with military electronics, and two new panels about Division history and Product Lines, were placed on display in a twelve-by-twelve-foot area at the **Historical Electronics Museum** in Linthicum (near the Marriott at the Airport). There were 8 display cases with artifacts from our collection as well as some from HEM's holdings. There is no admission charge to visit the **Historical Electronics Museum**.

Interview Status.....by Bill Stotz

We have conducted a total of four Oral History interviews, with Cramer Bacque, Malcolm Taylor, Jim Sebring, and Mike Ryan. With the exception of Jim Sebring's, which is being edited, these are all complete. They have been transcribed, edited and indexed. In addition, each has been added as a record, to the document database with its index terms appearing in the keyword field. Printed copies are in the BRF files, each with a CD containing the audio of the original interview and a Word file of the transcribed text. We are always looking for volunteers to tell their stories about their activities while employed by Bendix. Let us know if you will like us to record your story.

Collection Additions.....by Bill Mackey

The BRF received several large donations of Bendix Radio memorabilia along with many small donations of quite unique items that have been added to our database.

Ruth Hale was instrumental in our receiving many hand drawn illustrations, paintings as well as photos from Peppy Brandt's estate.

We received many folders of photos from the estate of Karl Sommers including photos of the early Bendix Retirees dinners in the 1970's.

Our web site was the source for a high school in North Dakota locating BRF and then donating a 1960's era Mine Detector Kit that we had no prior information about.

Cramer Bacque donated several folders of photos of the ARIA program especially the flight testing in Tulsa. Cramer was also our contact in establishing a meeting with Les Graffis. Les was interested in finding a repository for his personal Bendix Collection. Three days after meeting with Les and his daughter Elaine and making Les happy with our accepting his collection he died. We received 17 storage boxes of the early history of Bendix Field Engineering; quite a nice collection.

Recently we received 4 boxes of early history of Bendix Avionics at Joppa Rd from B. Cordry. Jerry Woodall accepted several documents and artifacts from Joppa Rd and he has purchased items on E-Bay.

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 (134 storage boxes). This database can currently only be accessed from the BRF computer in the BRF Archival Room, but we are working to have access thru the BMI website.

We have initiated doing the Artifact cataloging/database entry. The project of cataloging artifacts is well underway. Currently we are about 70% complete. There are currently 45 boxes plus many framed pictures and posters. Also, hardware artifacts, which are too large to fit into boxes, still need to be cataloged. Because the BMI museum has an Artifact Database using museum software, we are filling out one of their data entry forms for each artifact. They are then entering the data into their database. When that is complete, they will export those records as a text or Excel file which we will then import into the BRF database. The items will be photographed and the pictures will be available in both databases.

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. Raytheon donated a microfiche reader/printer to BRF but unfortunately we have not got it in operation.

The two major efforts remaining to be tackled are the cataloging of many boxes of photographs (78 boxes) and the original drawings we recovered from the Joppa Rd vault.

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.

Last year we reported 14,449 entries in our data base of employee names obtained from various personnel lists, divisional telephone books, and other documents. Since then, we have added approximately 2,000 more entries from sources such as Departmental Christmas address lists, issues of the *Bendix Beam* and *The Communicator*, and other publications. Because of the variety of input sources, there may be multiple entries for an employee.

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

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

Based on extensive information and photographs provided by Aaron Mall, we have created a Bendix Home Radio/TV database. We have listings for 112 radio models, 98 with pictures, and 131 TV models with pictures for 35. 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.

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 391 radios in the database with a few more to be added. There are certainly many missing because we have no information on them.

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

The 2007 BRF and BMI Joint Membership totals 179 persons: 42 Family Memberships and 95 Individual Memberships plus an additional 26 persons who made monetary donations. Our mailing list 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 2006-2007 BRF Board of Directors, elected in June 2006, are: Guil Vogt (2 years), Jerry Woodall (2 years), Joe McCormick (1 year), Len Bosse (1year), and Bill Stotz (1 year). The terms of each of these directors has been extended by one year.

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Bendix Radio & TV Exhibit at Baltimore Museum of Industry May 2007

