

TAPE SQUEAL



INDIANA RECORDING CLUB, INC.

Volume XXI — Number 5: May, 1980



A REEL INVENTION

John Berryman

I think the portable cassette tape recorder is the unsung hero in today's complex society. We sort of take it, and all the marvelous things it does, for granted. I've heard people say, when asked if they owned a portable recorder: "Oh yeah, I've got one of those things, but I can't seem to find much use for it." They speak with a nonchalant indifference. Wow, how much they're missing!

I'm going to guess that about 85% of our population do not explore the potential of the tape recorder, portable or not. They copy a record to be played back on occasion, while the more daring dub music from the radio. Perhaps a few of the very brave speak a few words into the microphone or, better yet, have the kids talk so that they'll have those golden words preserved for posterity.

I cannot understand why the most aggressive, masculine, dynamic male falls to pieces when confronted by a mike. He becomes a total reversal of his normal attitude, becoming a mass of quivering jelly when holding a microphone. He simply despises talking into the "machine." I'll never understand it.

I wonder what would have happened if Beethoven, Brahms, Bach, and others had had access to a portable tape recorder. Bet they would have turned out much more material during their creative years. One can only guess, but supposing a recorder had been available to Socrates, Plato, and other historical greats. Can you imagine hearing Jesus deliver the Sermon on the Mount, or Lincoln deliver the Gettysburg Address, at 7½ ips? Wow!! Most surely, modern composers, poets, authors, etc. have access to and use modern recording instruments.

Shortly after WW II, I became fascinated with the wire recorder. When Sears offered one on "sale" I purchased it, little realizing it was the beginning of a long series of recording devices. After retrieving the hundreds of ultra-thin stainless steel wire from behind the radio, back of my ears, through my toes, and around the sink, I gave it up because, after a few years, the monaural deck appeared on the market. The reel-to-reel completely outclassed the wire tape recorder, and it was finally dumped with the purchase of a Viking, which was followed by a Norelco, Sony, Columbia, Ampex, and others I don't remember.

Finally, the cassette. I didn't believe it at first, thinking it to be a kid's toy, but was surprised when I heard one and immediately bought a Sony TC 110. Then I got serious and bought a Sony TC 137 SD which does everything, mixing voices and sound. This deck will perform right along with the R-R, and even the experts can't tell the difference if you use a top-grade cassette that has been produced with DBX noise reduction system and Dolby.

And now, the audio-visual tape deck. Have I had a lot of fun since I purchased an RCA VHS deck. I've already rented many cassettes at a low price and, thus again, I'm off into another world. I feel sort of knighted with I think that I started with the wire recorder and have advanced, over the years, to an audio-visual deck. This is the kind of progress I like, it's reel fun.

Tape Squeal is the monthly newsletter of the INDIANA RECORDING CLUB. Send all news information, photographs, etc. to Sharon A. Moore, Editor, 4215 North Oxford Street, Indianapolis, IN 46205.

For information about membership in the INDIANA RECORDING CLUB contact William B. Davies, Secretary, 1729 East 77th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46240. Telephone (317) 251-7048.

Please send all changes of address and directory data to Eleanor Davies, 1729 East 77th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46240.

Your INDIANA RECORDING CLUB Board of Directors consists of Bill Endicott, Pres.; Bill Tillett, Vice-Pres.; Bill Davies, Secretary; Sue Bereman, Treasurer; and Gene Scott, Member.

TO ALL NEW MEMBERS (In the United States)

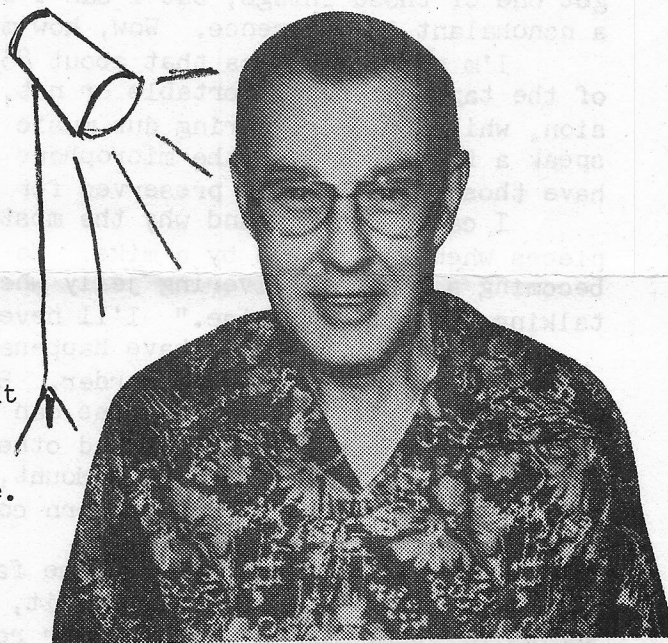
When you receive your welcoming tape please return to accompanying postcard to the committee chairman, William Kearney, 2625 W. Jefferson Rd., Kokomo, IN 46901.

I R C SPOTLIGHT

John Oliver

Blind Services Chairman

The Hobby Show has always been important to the Indiana Recording Club, but its importance is emphasized when we think of John Oliver, Blind Services Chairman, for without the Hobby Show, the IRC would not have this dedicated member. John relates that it was at a Hobby Show "years ago" that he was introduced to the IRC while he was working at the booth of his (then) first love, the Indianapolis Civil War Roundtable. While manning the Roundtable booth at the Show, John was introduced to the IRC by Art Hendricks, also a member of the IRC and the Roundtable. Although John sent in his application fairly soon, he didn't come to meetings until about the middle of the summer, but that was enough to change his interests for life! Prior to exposure to IRC John had been active in the Civil War Roundtable and had a large collection of railroad models. Since joining IRC he has become a true devotee to the art of taping and has even sold all his RR models. John's hobbies, in addition to taping, include photography, orchids (with which he admits "limited luck"), and his work with the blind members. He got into the position of Blind Services Chairman when his hand "somehow got in the air" at a meeting when the president was searching for a new chairman. The duties of the chairman include reading the *Tape Squeal* onto a master tape, along with short items of interest such as when dues are due. Master tapes are sent to three helpers who make copies of the master and send them out to the 55-57 blind members in our club. These masters are on 5" reels or C-90 cassettes and John's equipment can make up to 4 R-R copies at a time. John sends from 25-30 copies out each month, while Russel Getz, John McCormick, and Harlan Finch process the remainder. How does Mrs. Oliver deal with all this interest of her husband's? So far, no bad repercussions! The Oliver family consists of John, his wife, and two "four-footed kids," better known as dogs: a ten-year-old dachshund and a larger "87½%" collie. Many thanks to John for a job well done.



TECHNICAL NOTES

Gene Eaton

Recently a new type of audio signal processing accessory has made its appearance. Usually called a "Click and Pop Suppressor" its function is to remove or greatly reduce the audible transient sounds resulting from scratches and blemishes on the surface of a phono record. Although nothing can be done to restore to perfect condition a scratched disc, it is possible to greatly reduce the annoyance from the resulting clicks. "Pops" are another form of record noise which usually result from disc imperfections and the ever present electrostatic charge (accompanied by crackling sounds) on discs.

Once a transient noise is identified by the unit, the next step is to remove it without affecting the program. Though the audio signal can simply be blanked out for the duration of the noise pulse, this leaves a "hole" in the program what can be just as audible as the "spile" of noise. Hence, the click and pop suppressor has been designed to fill in the holes in the program as unobstructively as possible.

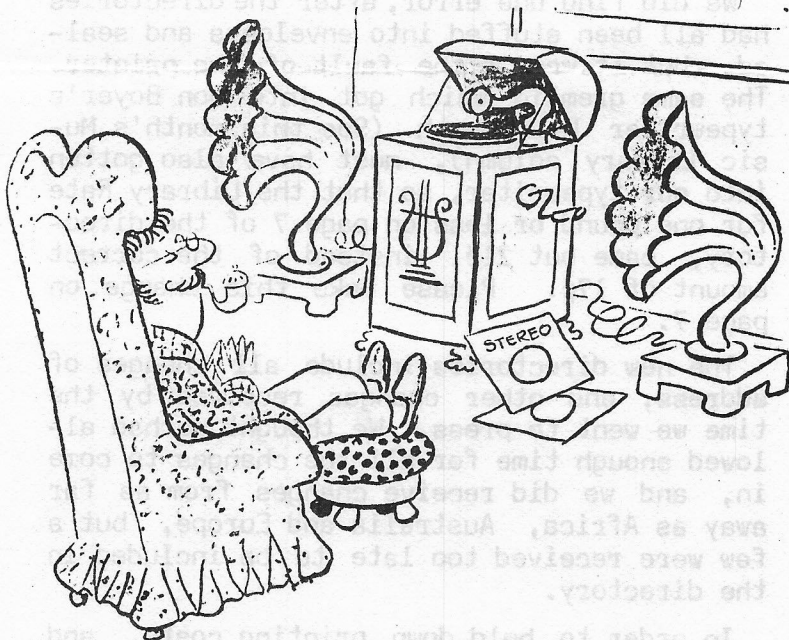
Each of the competing suppressors on the market differs in its circuit details for transient identification and the filling in of the holes left by the removal of the noise transient, but all operate on the same general principle.

The competing machines are the SAE 5000, Burwen TNE 7000, and the Garrard MRM 101. The SAE and the Burwen units are designed to be connected into an audio system via the amplifier's tape monitor loop where it can be used to remove transient noise impulses from any program source. The Garrard unit can be used only on phono sources. It contains its own RIAA equalized pre-amp whose output can be connected to a high level (Aux.) input on an amplifier or receiver.

The application of a click and pop suppressor to the home music system must be decided on the basis of how many seriously scratched records one has. Of course for the price paid for one of these units, one can buy a lot of replacement discs. However, if you are engaged in the making of tape copies of old scratched discs for which there are no replacements available, a suppressor may certainly be an invaluable accessory.

Keep in mind that none of these devices will do anything about record hiss, rumble or any other record noise. They will remedy only transient sounds that satisfy their recognition criteria. When used for the intended purpose, they can be effective and useful additions to any music system in which the quality of the records does not match that of the individual playing components.

Since the establishment of the RIAA standard and the improved quality of the material used to make records, the hiss is very low, leaving only the static charges and disc imperfections to be dealt with. Of course if someone has used the record for a Frisbee or has stamped over it with boots, the only practical solution is a trip to the trash can for the deposit of said record.



(thanks to Ed Sullivan for the cartoon)

RHODE ISLAND, WHERE ARE YOU?

The new directory discloses that we now have members in every state in the Union, except in Little Old Rhode Island. If you know any tapers in Rhode Island, tell them about IRC. Let's get members in all 50!

NEW IRC DIRECTORY.

Our new stream-lined directories, which have been about three months in preparation, have finally been finished and mailed, the last batch having been delivered to the postoffice on April 21st.

When the old directory was printed, the printer did such a lousy job of collating and punching, that we had to inspect each page of the 1,000 directories to be sure there were no missing pages, and we also had to hand punch many of them so the holes would fit the binders.

We used a new printer this time and he seems to have done a good job. The punched holes are correctly spaced, and in a spot check, we found no missing pages, so we did not examine each one of the 148,000 pages this time. If you do find any missing pages or other errors, let us know.

We did find one error, after the directories had all been stuffed into envelopes and sealed, but it wasn't the fault of the printer. The same gremlin which got into Don Boyer's typewriter last month (See this month's Music Library column), must have also gotten into our typewriter, so that the Library Rate for one pound or less on page 7 of the directory, came out 21¢, instead of the correct amount of 17¢. Please make this change on page 7.

The new directories include all changes of address, and other changes received by the time we went to press. We thought we had allowed enough time for all the changes to come in, and we did receive changes from as far away as Africa, Australia and Europe, but a few were received too late to be included in the directory.

In order to hold down printing costs, and also to keep the directory from becoming prematurely filled with additional pages, the Supplement pages are issued only when there are enough new members, changes, etc., to completely fill both sides of a page, with new members taking priority, then changes of address, followed by other changes and deletions. So whenever space is available in a supplement page, the late changes will be printed.

Since there were no supplement pages with last month's T.S., we are listing below the 19 new members received during the month. Their complete listings are in the new directory.

Lynn Barron,	Vinita, Oklahoma
Don Boudreaux,	Houston, Texas
Kelland Clark,	Boise, Idaho
Marjo Denekas,	Hinsdale, Illinois
Richard Fish,	Alexandria, Indiana
Thomas Grennefors,	Gollivare, Sweden
Ed J. Groller,	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Lloyd B. Lacy,	Tulsa, Oklahoma
Joanne Leavine,	Port Austin, Michigan
Hervor Lindell,	Sollentuna, Sweden
Marsha K. Lindgren,	Indianapolis, Indiana
Leonard E. Mrsny,	Omaha, Nebraska
Anna-Greta Olofsson,	Lit, Sweden
Ronald W. Page,	Dover, New Hampshire
Maire Leena Roos,	Spanga, Sweden
Wm. T. Sawyer,	Drexel Hill, Pennsylvania
Paul T. Seashore,	Corpus Christi, Texas
Rosemary Williams,	Fulton, Indiana
P. W. Womelsdorff,	Lake Charles, Louisiana

Our thanks to Bill DeSouza of Salem, Oregon, and "Stereo Review" for this copy of a sign he uses to keep people from touching his stereo equipment:

ACHTUNG! Alles Touristen Und Non-technischen Lookens Peepers! Das Machine control is Nicht Fur Gerfingerpoken Und Mitten Grabben. Oderwise is Easy Schnappen Der Springenwerk, Blowenfuse, Und Poppencorken Mit Spitzensparken. Der Machine is Diggen by Experten Only. Is Nicht Fur Gerverken by Das Dummkopfen. Das Rubbernecken Sightseenen Keepen Das Cottonpicken Hands in Das Pockets. So Relaxen Und Watchen Das Blinkenlights.

TRADING POST

Free notices for IRC members, concerning
tape and related items to sell, buy, trade, etc.

DON BOUDREAUX - D-90: *interested in swapping tapes of material by Eddy Duchin on Columbia or Brunswick. Has all on Victor. Also wants material by the Ink Spots. Also material by organist Truman Welch.*

GRACE CHIPMAN - D-82: has for sale Grundig portable R-R 3" battery powered recorder for \$50 postpaid. Also would like to start a RoundRobin on 5" R-R: music, song, conversation, whatever comes to mind. Write first and she will start things going.

FRED BECKLENBERG - D-22: *wants a vocal rendition and an instrumental rendition of the song "The Chase." He will supply the cassette.*

DONALD ANDREWS - D-27: is still looking for a song by Ronnie Kemper titled "I'm A Little Teapot." Also looking for songs or remotes of Johnnie "Scats" Davis.

BILL NYE - D-40: *would like to get a copy of the radio announcer's eyewitness account of the burning of the German zeppelin, Hindenburg, at Lakehurst, New Jersey, May 6, 1937. Will gladly pay postage and for a cassette or other expenses.*

BILL KEARNEY - page 4: wants you to be a member of the Welcome Committee. If interested, write to Bill at the address on page 4 of the new directory.

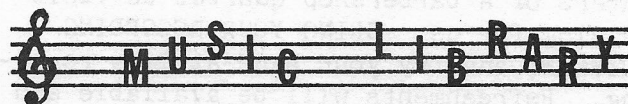
NEW LIBRARY BORROWING FEES.

Don't forget the new rates when you borrow tapes from any of the IRC libraries. See page 5 in the new directory for rules and rates.

ATTENTION: NON-U.S. MEMBERS - from Bill Kearney:

To the members of the Welcoming Committee and new club members from other countries:

The notice in tape squeal regarding returning the card you received with your welcoming tape does not apply in these cases as there is no way we can buy cards here that are mailable in your country. It is always nice to hear from you at anytime but your mail will have to carry your country's postage. Thank you, Per Osterlund, Sweden, for your letter in this regard.



Wallace Kennedy, #1803, donated four cassettes to the Music Library. They are:

- C-91. Mahalia Jackson - God Bless This House. (Dolby)
- C-92. Kiss Me Kate - Orig. Broadway Cast. C-90 (Dolby)
- C-93. Yummy in Your Tummy - Children singing about good things to eat, plus Disney Song Carousel. (Dolby)
- C-94. Give My Regards to Broadway - Joel Grey & Brdwy. Cast. (Dolby)

Remember when different moods on the silent screen were indicated by the accompaniment on the piano? Excitement, mystery, the chase, or whatever. And the themes from the silent stars' pictures -- Mary Pickford, Harold Lloyd, Buster Keaton, Charlie Chaplin, etc. Borrow this cassette donated by G.E. Marrion, #1611:

C-95. Musical Moods from the Silent Films.

* * * * *

A little gremlin crept into Don Boyer's Radio Ramblin's column last month and fouled up the reference to postage stamps. The Library Rate is 17¢, not 16¢. And that is only for 1 pound or less (two 5" reels). Two 7" reels weigh over 1 pound, and the rate is 23¢. Sorry about that!

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Regularly scheduled meetings of the INDIANA RECORDING CLUB are held on the third Sunday of each month at 2:00pm in the basement meeting room at the Leppert & Copeland Mortuary (740 E. 86th Street) in INDIANAPOLIS.

* * * GUESTS ARE WELCOME!!!! * * *

This Month---

MAY 18TH

Dennis Burcher has made arrangements for members of a barbershop quartet to visit and sing for us. BRING YOUR RECORDING EQUIPMENT and try your hand at live recording. Refreshments will be available and a great time is in store for all!!

& Next---

JUNE 15TH

Bart Kister will present a show titled "Puget Sound and British Columbia By Old Boat." Besides the great show, there will be great coffee, cookies, and conversation. Be there!!

SILENT MIKES

It is with a real sense of loss that we report the deaths of two of our members. Walter H. Ziehm, IRC #1657, died on March 5, 1980, and Claude Besemer, IRC #1023, passed away April 19, 1980. Both of these men will be missed not only by their families but also by their tape friends.

MAILING LABELS

two color with IRC logo

Reel size: 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 4 $\frac{1}{4}$

Cassette size: 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 4

Price - \$1.75/100 - either size

Order from BOB GEER

1155 MAYNARD DRIVE

INDIANAPOLIS, IN. 46227

When ordering, please specify size.

HOBBIES, ANYONE?

Do you have a tape-related, money-producing hobby? Or business? Let me know (ME is your editor, Sharon Moore). If you have any home business, tell me that, too. I would like to find out more about the marvelous people who make up the IRC membership list, and would like to share this information with all the other members. This will be a good way to not only let everyone know what you do in your spare time, but also will help to drum up more business! I've already had some response from a few of you, but I know there are more out there! Hurry, so that you can be represented.

* * * * *

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER?

By now you are probably beginning to think that you will never see another Tape Squeal again. But it has finally arrived! This month's edition is a little late (about a week, to be almost exact) for a very good reason. At least your editor thinks it's a good reason. The demands of college life required more time than usual at the end of April, leaving little available for T.S. This will not happen again, at least until the end of the next semester! Thank you for your patience.

Sharon

INDIANA RECORDING CLUB

Sharon Moore, Editor

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Indianapolis, IN 46205

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