



The Hoosier-phone

*The Newsletter of the
Hoosier Antique Phonograph Society*

Volume 11 Issue 1 February 2007

Carlton Smith Editor



The next meeting of the Indiana Chapter of MAPS will be held on *Sunday, February 18* with festivities starting at **1:00pm**. We will be at Tim & Cindy McCormick's home is located on Lake Holiday, just 15 minutes South of Crawfordsville, IN. State Roads Tim & Cindy McCormick's number is: (765) 866-0151.

(Site map and further details on last page.)

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

We were hosted by Tim and Sharon Fizer in their "phonograph museum" and beautiful home just outside Laporte. On their main floor Tim has several very early machines placed tastefully in their several rooms. Downstairs, mostly given over to displaying, he has an extensive collection (dozens) of outside and inside horn machines that have been meticulously restored to working order and near mint condition. The machines are placed close together but uncrowded so they can be viewed comfortably. All of the collection was sparkling from a recent dusting by their curator. We all spent a lot of time just looking and discovering and *ooing* and *ahhing* and reading the neat descriptive identification cards on each one. Incredible, remarkable, outstanding, wonderful, extraordinary, inspirational are a few of the reactions and comments. Thanks Tim and thanks Sharon.

Tim introduced Larry and Tammy Krueger, soon to be new members, as enthusiastic guests at our meeting. Also, long time member but seldom seen Ed Combs was present.

Paul Ladd, Rod Pickett and Tim Fizer agreed to develop a proposal to host a phonograph related convention at the Cruse complex at Auburn for 2008 and a site visit is planned for the April 2007 meeting. Wisconsin has agreed to host the competition portion of the 2008 event.

Rod brought some rare artifacts for show and tell. He displayed an original signed "The bunch from Orange" brochure in great condition, an original signed napkin ring demonstration cylinder, a Columbia Concert cylinder in near mint condition in its original tin container and a unique Edison brochure (see added feature). These items are very rare and were privileged to see them up close. Thanks to all of you for making the trip and making our meeting the great fun it was.

Please keep Carlton and his ailing Mother in your hearts and thoughts during this difficult period. Also, please remember Marjorie, recovering wife of Michael Jackson, too.

We hope to see you all at Tim McCormicks, in Crawfordsville, for our next get together. A visit to the study of Lew Wallace is on the program.

Best regards to all,

Al Gentry

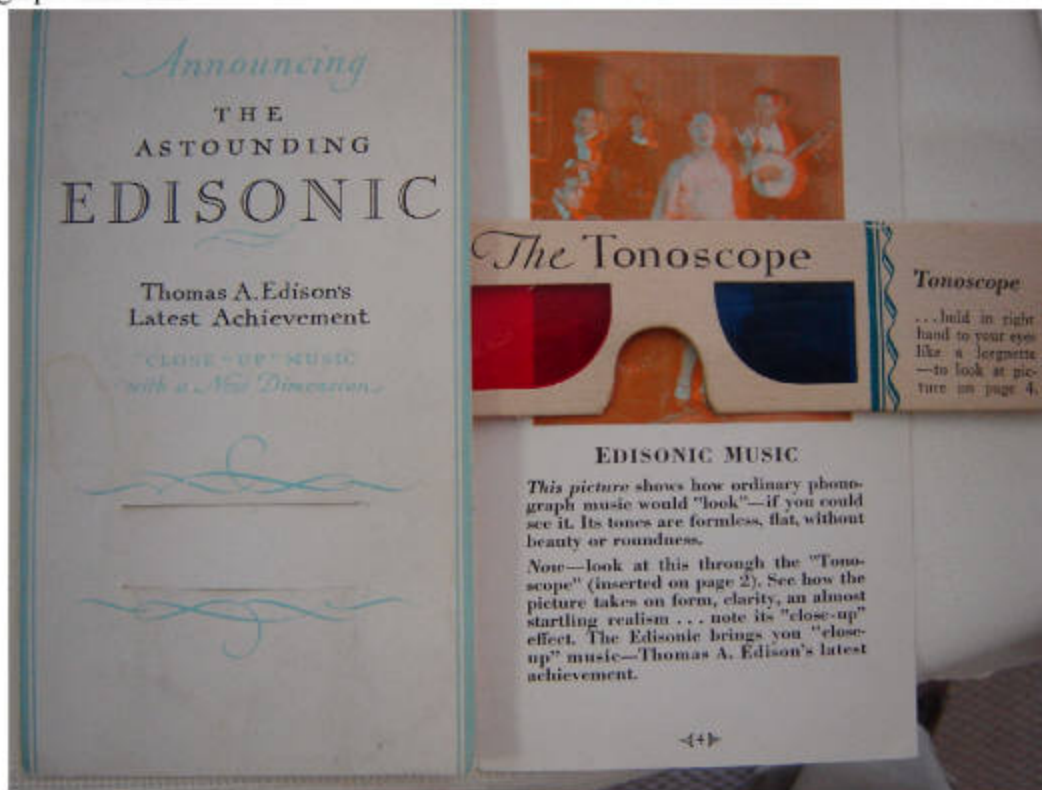


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Added feature . . .



Shown here, a promotional brochure for Edison phonograph records. It is another of Rod Pickett's treasured historic publications. If you think you recognize the folding "glasses" you are half a century too modern. Prescient of 3D movies, here is an Edisonian attempt to exploit a similar device by graphically demonstrating "CLOSE-UP" music available from Edison. It was a pleasure to see this and other items shared with us during our October HAPS meeting at the Fizer Phonograph Museum.



Notes:

Several of us met during the Stanton sale at Charlotte, Michigan on November 18th. Tim Fizer, Dick Oxenrider, Paul Ladd, Stan Thompson, Larry Kroeger, Rod Picket and Loraine and Al Gentry were among those attending. We met at the "Gavel" briefly to consider hosting a Phonovention type of event at the Cruse facility near Auburn in 2008. Paul related that Steve Stanton has expressed interest in conducting another auction in the facility. We agreed to consider combining a convention with a Stanton phonograph related auction hosted by us at or around the Cruse Brothers complex near Auburn. Also, there was a consensus that we should begin referring to our chapter as the "Hoosier Antique Phonograph Society".

We have not changed our Hoosier-phone format. I just took advantage of my fill-in job and lack of Adobe software and added some art from one of my other favorite activities.

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Found!

Afford us some vicarious fun by sharing your adventures in the hunt for phonographic treasures.



Here is an example of a real find described in a note from Paul Ladd.

"The last week of November, there was an auction in New Haven. The ad stated there was a Edison cylinder machine with 80 cylinders in the auction.

I stopped at the auction house the day before to look things over and found an Edison table model with a matching bottom cabinet. The machine looked just like the Edison V that I was working on for a man in Indy. But, when you opened the lid it looked like the works of a model 75 was installed in it. I removed the grill to find the name tag and found the numbers I needed. I returned home and got out my book on Edison cylinder machines to find out what this machine was. The name tag stated it was a B-V serial # 638. It went on to state that there were only 859 of these machines made. I contacted Rod Pickett to see if he knew anything about this machine. He said he did not have a clue about it, so he contacted Ronald Dethlefsen, a well known Edison expert, in California. Ron said he had only seen 2 of these machines in his lifetime. He said it was manufactured in February or March 1915 after the fire that destroyed the Edison plant in 1914.

I went to the auction the next day and purchased the machine and cabinet. Two other guys ran the cylinders up past what they were worth, but I didn't need them anyway. I have refinished the lower cabinet and am waiting on better weather before I do anything with the machine. I had to replace both springs in the motor and clean up everything else."

Sorry, no pictures yet but the picture at the top of this article is of a similar machine.

Note: Here's a delightful bit of news from a couple of our HAPS members. If you have not already purchased your copy of these very special CDs, now is the time. They will be overwhelmed with orders once they win the well earned Grammys for which they have been nominated. As you may recall, this material was described in the Hoosier-phone for last March. "Member Richard Martin made available copies of a boxed CD set his company Archeophone has released as a companion to the University of Illinois publication "Lost Sounds: Blacks and the Birth of the Recording Industry, 1890-1919", by Tim Brooks, Appendix by Dick Spottswood. These are the stories of the first African American recording stars, and how they succeeded against the culture of the time. A 64-page book of scholarly notes and unique photos accompanies the boxed set. If you wonder how it all began or if you just love early music the CDs are awesome."

"Dear Al,

We have "found" out that our "Lost Sounds" CD is nominated for two Grammy awards. We'll be in L.A. for the show on Feb. 11th. Keep your fingers crossed.

best,

Richard Martin and Meagan Hennessey, Members "

Archeophone Records, LLC ,4106 Rayburn Ct ,Champaign IL 61822, phone/fax (217) 355-9883 or (800) 728-5009; sales@archeophone.com; <http://www.archeophone.com>

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DIRECTIONS TO OUR NEXT MEETING

Place: Tim McCormick
2951 W. Stratford Circle
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
(765) 866-0151

Tim & Cindy McCormick's home is located on Lake Holiday, just 15 minutes South of Crawfordsville, IN. State Roads 231, 47, 32, 43 and Washington Street are all the same road running North and South through Crawfordsville. State Road 47 branches off at the Southern end of town at the intersection where you'll find the U.S. National Guard Army on the North West corner. Once you are driving South on State Road 47, there will be "HAPS" signs directing you to our home. Our phone number is:

(765) 866-0151

