

THE DOPE FROM HOPE

191008



Richard Groves
KHMA President

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

The leaves are turning bright colors reminding us of the holidays ahead. We are celebrating the holidays with the newest member of our Klipsch Museum of Audio History (KHMA) family of homes — The Paul W. Klipsch Auditorium. This historic auditorium is located in downtown Hope, Arkansas and gives us a place to gather and enjoy great music.

We are partnering with local hotels, restaurants and vendors to offer new events for all to enjoy. It is our goal to provide you with the best Hope has to offer.

The first first event is Chief Bonehead's Deep Dive educational weekend, October 18-19. This event will be hosted at the Educational Center by Roy Delgado, chief engineer for Klipsch Audio and Chief Bonehead himself. He will enlighten attendees on why Paul W. Klipsch (PWK) "did what he did" and why Roy "does what he does" during a weekend of learning, listening and socializing. This is the inaugural education event for our PWK Education Center, with much more to come.

We are always grateful to the many volunteers and members that make KHMA a success. It is through your support that we spread the word and information about great sound!

CURATOR'S
Jim Hunter, Curator
CORNER



Donations & Acquisitions:

None since last reported. However, we do have our eyes on a couple of historical Heritage products. Stay tuned.

Archives:

As mentioned last time, a gem recently surfaced in the Archives. Belle Klipsch's 1956 draft biography of PWK contains previously unreleased material. We are releasing this document in chapters on the website, with social media pushing traffic to our site.

Housekeeping:

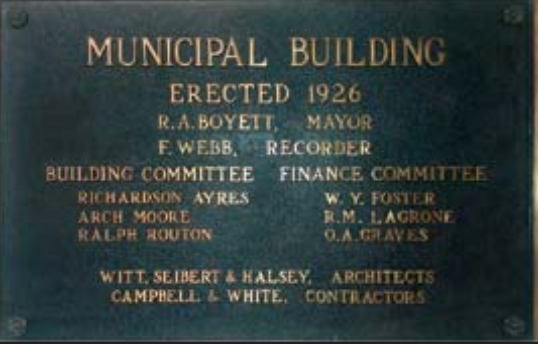
Artifact inventory took a major step forward with the emptying of the truck trailer. With all of the items together in an air-conditioned space, an EFFICIENT process of documentation was realized. This entailed sorting, dusting off, sequential labeling, photographing, and listing the essential descriptors. Roughly 250 additional items have been documented. In total, we are pushing 800 artifacts captured in PastPerfect, our documentation software.



Artifacts:

Of all of the artifacts re-discovered in the above effort, one stands out to me. In Belle Klipsch's 1956 bio of PWK, she mentions a "copier" Paul built at Stanford (1932-1934) for duplication of 16mm movie film for the various laboratories there. I believe, as evidenced by these two photos, that it has been found.





The Paul W. Klipsch Municipal Auditorium

Many are unaware of the existence of Hope, Arkansas's performing arts facility dedicated to Paul Klipsch in the 1990's.

It is the upstairs portion of Hope City Hall, built in 1926.

When the local University of Arkansas Hope-Texarkana (UAHT) built a modern performing arts facility (Hempstead Hall), the demand for an "old, upstairs theater" dropped to nearly zero. It has only been used twice in 2019. Effective October 1, 2019, KHMA has an exclusive lease for the Paul W. Klipsch Auditorium from the City of Hope.

The space is definitely "old-school" as would be expected for 1926. The main floor is 5,400 square feet with seating for almost 400.

An elevator from the ground floor to the main entrance, as well as a fire exit, were both added in the 90's. There is also a 2,300 square foot balcony, although it was not brought up to code like the main floor, and is not in use. However, it looks cool!

The stage has associated curtains, dressing rooms, and lighting. It would support most any high school play. It supported an Elvis show back in the day!



Other than some significant janitorial efforts, we anticipate doing little else to the room. The only major maintenance KHMA will do is to provide security between this space and the rest of the building. This requires public space door locks that must provide positive egress at all times. Our Facilities Chair, Craig Strause, has a little code homework to do.

KHMA envisions several uses for this vintage facility. Obviously it can provide a huge classroom. And if Elvis could do it, so can we, with concerts and other events. The acoustics have been favorably commented on by most that have been there. Whether it supports critical listening to stereo remains to be seen, but at least it should prove educational to all of us.

The ultimate possibility for this facility is a serious cinema featuring Klipsch speakers!





Trailer Trash

The Facilities Committee descended on Hope July 5-7 to empty the truck trailer contents and re-locate them in the Education Center for inventory purposes. Craig Strause, Kevin Harmon, Elden Luquet and Jim Hunter comprised the core group. New committee members Michael Griffin and Andy Barr stepped in, as well as James Hunter (son of Jim).



Michael, Elden, James, Jim, Kevin & Andy

In spite of sweltering temperatures, the operation went very quickly. In a matter of a few hours the Education Center was full of trailer trash!

The trailer was originally used at Klipsch Group, Inc. to store the Museum's basement contents that were salvaged after the "great flood" back in the 90's. The 2016 transfer of ownership to the Museum listed it as "trailer with contents."

The initial inventory for insurance purposes consisted of a series of photographs. A real inventory was hampered, not only due to limited physical space at the Museum, but also because of the trailer's deteriorated door. Access was extremely difficult, literally requiring three men and a block and tackle just to get the door part way up!

As the Facilities Committee rode off into the sunset, it was the job of the Curator to organize, label, photograph, document, and put most of the artifacts into temporary storage.

This has been done (with a big assist from Ian Moore, thank you), leaving only some clean up on aisle five for Facilities.

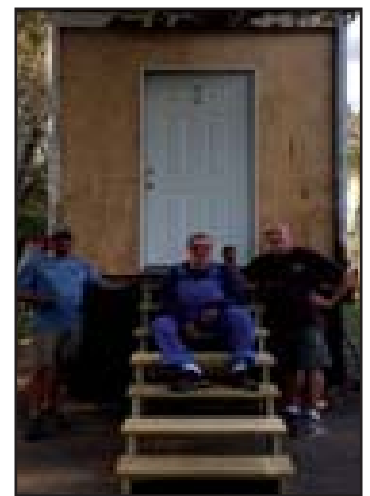
With the exception of some vinyl LP's, we are now caught up on good practices and documentation of the trailer contents.

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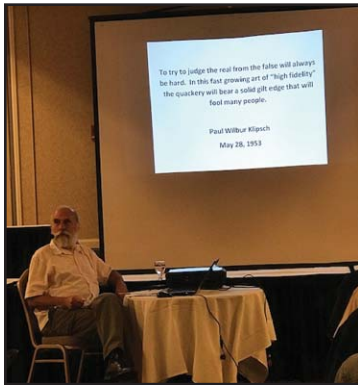


Kudos...

Members of our Facilities Committee put in some more hard work the weekend of September 27-29. They whipped the Education Center into shape for the upcoming course in October by replacing the storage trailer's door and adding steps for easier access. We want to give a special thank you to our dedicated workers: Andy Barr, Brandon Harmon, Christy Luquet, Craig Strause, Elden Luquet, Ian Moore and Jim Hunter.



The AWA Convention - Jim Hunter



The Antique Wireless Association (AWA) <http://www.antiquewireless.org/> is a 501c-3 non-profit, dedicated in large part to the history of radio communications. Their vision statement is: To preserve and share the history of technology used to communicate and entertain from the first telegram to today's wireless text messaging. Their by-laws appear to be as substantial as ours, suggesting that they have their own "Travis"!

Their annual convention was held August 13-17, 2019 in Rochester, NY, with 164 attendees including Richard Groves and me. There were 16 invited presentations. This year, for the first time, they had a focus on loudspeakers.

I was honored to present on a familiar topic - Paul W. Klipsch. Tooting my own horn (!), their convention chair stated in a follow-up e-mail: "I had about a half dozen people who mentioned to me that they were surprised at how much they learned in your session. They all knew of Klipsch speakers but didn't know much about the company. What made your presentation compelling I think is your choice to concentrate on Paul's life. Too often we tend to get "down in the weeds" about how this or that particular item works without remembering who planted the grass that the weeds sprout in."

Founded in 1952, the AWA provides one of the very few brick and mortar museums that occupy the same general space as KHMA. Richard and I were given the full tour, and it was very impressive, not to mention their functioning Tesla Coil! A good sense of humor was evidenced in the accompanying warning sign: "Danger! 99,000 Ohms".



One of their artifacts that particularly overlaps KHMA's interests is an EV cornerhorn with a 30" woofer. Coveting is a sin, right?



And a personal favorite of mine:



AWA shares with KHMA the challenge of recruiting younger generations. To that end, they are focusing on educational programs geared toward grades K-12. We have a lot to learn from them, and that process is just beginning.

Watermelon Festival...



Hope, Arkansas is famous for its watermelons and it celebrates them annually with the Hope Watermelon Festival, featuring numerous family-oriented activities and entertainment. Some of the many events include a 5k race, a dog show, an antique car show, a "Watermelon Idol" talent contest, a watermelon eating contest, a seed spitting contest, duck races and arm wrestling. There are tons of food vendors, and local civic clubs hold dinners featuring down-home fare like locally grown smoked chicken and golden fried catfish. The festival attracts more than 20,000 visitors a year and we were happy to be among the 150+ vendors. This was the 43rd annual Watermelon Festival. We look forward to participating again next year.

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CORRECTION

In the "A Very Special Award" article of our last issue, we identified Scott Yocum's daughter as Lauren White Yocum. Her correct name is Lauren Yocum White.



Getting to Know More About Stacey Atchison & Ian Moore...

Since Ian is one of our trustees and Stacey is our treasurer, you can read their bios on our website. But here's something we didn't know:

She didn't know she was getting married!

Stacey and Ian met when she was a 19-year-old college student and he was a local bartender. They didn't date back then (they both had significant others) but became good friends. Over the years the significant others went the wayside, but Stacey and Ian maintained their friendship. Persistence pays off as, although Stacey turned Ian down for tons of dates over the years, they did eventually start dating. Since Ian is a Klipsch-head, over the course of their four years of dating, they attended several Pilgrimages. They also took other trips together and found their favorite vacation spot, Long Island, Bahamas. On their third trip to this vacation paradise, Ian proposed on a Saturday and they got married on the following Monday! Ian says he strategically planned this because he didn't want to be called the "F" word (fiancé). He arranged for Stacey's best friend to fly in on the Saturday of the proposal. He knew when the friend's flight would be arriving and arranged to be on the beach with Stacey at that time.

When he saw the plane flying in overhead, he wrote his proposal in the sand. Stacey said yes and when they returned from the beach, her best friend was sitting at the bar to congratulate them (and, of course, to be there to witness the ceremony on Monday). They had a wonderful ceremony and



honeymooned in a multimillion dollar house on their paradise, Long Island. Look closely at the page from the Marriage Register. It has a "Condition" column where it lists Ian as a Bachelor and Stacey as a Spinster! So we wonder, if *The Bachelorette* TV show originated in the Bahamas, would it be called *The Spinster*?

Stacey and Ian's fifth wedding anniversary is this November 10th. Join us in wishing them a very happy anniversary.



WHO WE ARE

Paul W. Klipsch (PWK) was an American audio pioneer, a true eccentric and a proud member of the *Engineering and Science Hall of Fame*. He gave rise to technologies that would forever impact generations of music lovers. He left an amazing legacy for you to discover.

We believe in the importance of science in education, the spirit of discovery, and good ol' American ingenuity. As a non-profit organization, the Klipsch Museum of Audio History is dedicated to preserving and sharing the technological discoveries, artifacts, and principles of Paul W. Klipsch.



Klipsch Museum of Audio History is owned and operated by the Klipsch Heritage Museum Association (KHMA), whose mission is to restore, preserve, maintain and display Klipsch and Klipsch-related artifacts and archival materials for historic purposes, as well as to conduct pertinent historical research and to host educational activities and events.

Visited us?

Please post a review to Trip Advisor for others to see. Help spread the word!

PLAN YOUR VISIT

We would love to have you tour our collection and hear our stories. They're good ones.

Admission: Admission to the Museum is free to all. However, donations are always welcome. Let your conscience be your guide after your tour!

Hours: Open 10AM-2PM Wednesday through Friday. Also open by appointment - email us! Closed July 4th, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, & New Year's Day

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