

**The Central Texas Amateur Radio Club
meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM at the
Bell County Communications Center, 708 West Avenue O, in Belton**

Terry's Telegram...

Terry Evans, KF5OHR

Right off the top, it is my distinct pleasure to welcome Miss McKinley Engstrom - KI5BVQ, who joined our club at our last meeting on September 3rd. Please take the opportunity to welcome her and thank her for joining and her support.

Coming up this month is the ever popular HamExpo on the 5th, just around the corner from where we meet at the Bell County Exposition Center. For those interested, it's a great opportunity to upgrade your license at the VE test session, or to find those radio related items you just can't live without. Also this month, is the Boy Scout's Jamboree On-the-Air during the weekend of the 19th and 20th. Here locally in support of that, there will be a special set-up at the American Legion Post #223 in Killeen. The Post is located at #208, South Park Street. If you get the opportunity, stop by and lend them your support or at least say Hi.

To the new people and the young, in our hobby, amateur radio in all its phases, is the cleanest and the most serious pastime that could be thought of. It ennobles and instructs, and it does more than anything else we know of to lift the young person to lofty heights. The knowledge that the young person gains while an amateur can never be lost. It will be of paramount importance to him or her when they grow up, and it matters not what their future will be and in what business they engage in. Once an amateur - always an amateur! The one important outstanding fact about amateur radio is that it unquestionably sharpens the senses as few things do. The new art gives patience and makes our eye and ear keener than they were before. No wonder the radio amateur is looked upon with envious eyes by his friends less fortunate who have not embraced the wonderful art. Let us therefore look into the future and let us see what it holds for us.

At our last meeting we discussed our Christmas Luncheon get-together. I've made the reservations at Clem's, so we're all set for 3:00 PM on December 14th. I do hope you'll attend.

Until then, I hope to see you at our next club meeting which will be on Tuesday, October 1st at 7:00 PM, at the Bell County Communications Center.

73, Terry - KF5OHR



HamEXPO!



Sponsored by the Temple Amateur Radio Club -W5LM, the *Belton Hamfest* returns to the Bell County Exposition Center in Belton, **Saturday, October 5th** from 7:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Getting there is easy; from U.S. Highway 190 take the exit for Loop 121 and follow the signs to the Exposition Center. Plenty of free parking!

Talk-in frequency is 146.820(-) PL 123, and call for W5LM.

General admission for the public is \$5.00 at the door. Admission price includes one free raffle ticket for various door prizes raffled off during the event. Winners must be present to collect their winnings.

For more information, please visit:
<http://www.tarc.org/hamexpo>



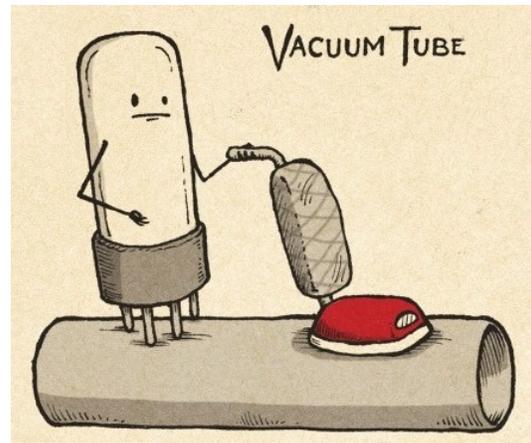
Ham Expo Amateur Radio Test Session

In conjunction with the HamExpo, amateur radio tests will be given in the main building of the Expo center, on the 2nd floor, and is sponsored by the Central Texas Amateur Radio Club. The testing will begin at 9:30 AM and end when all applicants have been tested, probably around 11:00 AM.

Since the test session is in conjunction with the very popular Ham Expo, we expect between 25 and 50 people taking the tests. This requires at least 10 Volunteer Examiners to properly staff the event. The VE's participating should be on site by 9:00. Both General and Extra VE's are needed since all test levels are being made available.

This is a 'Ham Community' effort and all area VE's are needed and most welcome to participate. If you will be able to participate, please send an email to Jan Gregg - W5GNK at: jang5@yahoo.com, or you can contact her by phone at (254) 217-3791.

People taking the test do not need to register before hand, just show up at test time. A photo ID and one other form of ID is required. The test fee is \$15.00.





Simulated Emergency Test

The ARRL Simulated Emergency Test is October 5th & 6th and is a nationwide exercise in emergency communications, administered by ARRL Emergency Coordinators and Net Managers.

The primary objective of the SET is to test and practice the ability of ARES sections to communicate with their local EOC's and to find out their strengths and weaknesses.



School Club Round-Up

This 5-day event runs from 1300 UTC Monday, October 21st through 2359 UTC Friday, October 25th, with the purpose of fostering contacts with and among school radio clubs.

More information on this can be found at: <http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup>



Coryell County Joint Comm Group Meeting

The next meeting of the Coryell County Joint Comm Group will be on Thursday, October 17th, at 11:30 AM, at the Lil Tex Restaurant, 502 South Main Street, in Copperas Cove.



South Texas Hamfest & Electronics Expo

This event is on Saturday, October 19th, 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM, at the San Patricio County Fairgrounds & Event Center, 219 West 5th Street, in Sinton. Info concerning a talk-in frequency is not listed. For more information, please visit: <http://southtexashamfest.org/>



Scouting's Jamboree On-the-Air

Scouting's Jamboree on the Air will take place October 19th - 20th. Several stations bearing the **K2BSA / #** callsign will be active across the country.

For more information on this event, please visit: <https://www.scouting.org/jota/>

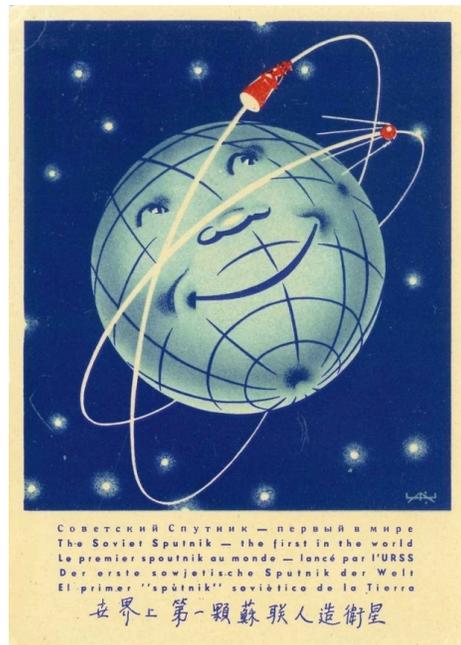


CQ World-Wide DX Contest

Contest period runs from 0001Z, October 26th through 2400Z October 27th, on 10, 15, 20, 40, 80 & 160 meters SSB. For further information, please visit: <https://www.cqww.com/>



October 4th, 1957, the Soviet Union launched the first Earth orbiting satellite, Sputnik 1. Ten years later, *Radio Moscow* issued this commemorative QSL card to it's listeners.





A group will be active as **A2IEME** from Botswana, 20 - 29 October. QSL via PA3CMC.

A group is active as **A35AG** from Tonga, until October 6. QSL via LotW, eQSL, or MØOXO.

KV1J is active signing **stroke FP**, from Miquelon Island, until October 8. QSL via his home call or LotW.

A group will be active as **ZK3A** from Tokelau Island, 2 - 11 October. QSL via YT1AD or LotW.

A group will be active as **VP6R** from Pitcairn Island, 18 Oct. - 1 Nov. QSL via K9CT.

A group will be active as **E51GC** from Manihiki Atoll, 10 - 28 October. QSL via LZ1GC.

HA5AO will be active as **7P8AO** from Lesotho, October 1 - 15. QSL via his home call.

A group will be active as **6W1RY** from Senegal, October 26 - 27. USA QSL's go via WA6WPG or LotW.

A group will be active as **VU7RI** from Lakshadweep Islands, October 19 - 31. QSL via MØKRI, or via LotW.

DL8UD will be active as **HC5M** from Ecuador, October 26 - 27. QSL via his home call.

A group will be active as **T3ØGC** from Tarawa Atoll, October 7 - 23. QSL via LZ1GC, or LotW.

A group will be active as **D68CCC** from Comoro Islands, 20 October - 1 November. QSL via IK2VUC.

DF2WO is active as **D44TWO** from Santiago Island, until October 13. QSL via MØOXO.

W2GD will be active as **P4ØW** from Aruba, October 22 - 29. QSL via LotW or to N2MM.

A group will be active as **CYØC** from Sable Island, 5 - 12 October. QSL via WA4DAN or via LotW.

A group will be active as **V49V** from Saint Kitts Island, 26 - 27 October. QSL via AA4V or via LotW.

W7GJ is active as **S79GJ** from La Digue Island, until 5 October. QSL via his home call.

KD7WPJ will be active as **YJØBCP** from Efate Island, October 3 - 10. QSL via his home call.

DJ7RJ will be active signing **stroke FH** from Mayotte, 15 Oct. - 3 Nov. QSL via his home call.

A group will be active as **3G1DX** from Pajaros Rocks, October 18 - 23. QSL via XQ4CW.

RC5A as **5H3CA** and RMØF as **5H3RRC** are active on Mafia Island, until 5 October. QSL via RC5A.

PA2JJB is active as **PA6TXL** from Texel Island, until October 8. QSL via his home call.

PA7DA will be active signing **stroke P4** from Aruba Island, 17 - 31 October. QSL via his home call.

N2HX will be active as **PJ7PL** from Sint Maarten Island, 20 Oct. - 4 Nov. QSL via his call.

JF2QNM will be active as **TO1J** from Martinique Island, 24 - 28 October. QSL via his home call.

A group will be active as **TO8ØSP** from Saint Pierre and Miquelon, 2 - 14 October. QSL via DL7DF.

A group will be active as **N5C** from Cat Island (MS) and Isle Au Pitre (LA) as **K5P**, October 4 - 6. QSL each via KØAP.

DL2JRM will be active as **9H3YY** from Malta, October 18 - 22. QSL via his home call.

A group is active as **9H3GK** from Malta, until October 6. QSL via DL7OO.

How's DX? *Continued...*

IK2GZU is active as **5H3MB** from Tanzania, until 28 October. QSL via his home call, LotW, or eQSL.

JJ1DQR will be active as **3W9QR** from Vietnam, 23 October - 1 November. QSL via his home call.

NT5V will be active as **V31JW** from Belize, 5 - 12 October. QSL via his home call, or LotW.

OE2VEL will be active as **CR2L** from Graciosa Island, October 26 - 27. QSL via his home call or LotW.

A group will be active as **OX7A** from Greenland, 22 - 31 October. QSL via OZ1ACB, or LotW.

W9HT will be active signing **stroke VP9** from Bermuda Islands, 12 - 15 October. QSL via his home call.

K5WE will be active as **VP2VEM** and **N5AQ** signing **stroke VP2V** will be active from the British Virgin Islands, October 4 - 13. QSL each via their home calls.

A group will be active as **J68MD** from St. Lucia, October 26 - 27. QSL via N2HIW.

OH3WS will be active as **OJØW** from Market Reef, 5 - 12 October. QSL via his home call.

A group will be active as **5KØK** from San Andres Island, 15 - 30 October. QSL via OK6DJ.

NN5E will be active as **V31CC** from Belize, 5 - 12 October. QSL via his home call or LotW.

A group will be active as **V47AA** from St. Kitts, October 22 - 29. QSL via AA4V or LotW.

F5MAW is active as **TT8JLH** from Chad, until October 14. QSL via eQSL.

A group will be active as **TI7W** from Costa Rica, October 26 - 27. QSL via W4FS.



As an early heads-up... CTARC will not be holding a regular monthly meeting in December. Instead, we'll be having a Christmas luncheon get together at Clem Mikeska's Bar-B-Q, at 3:00 PM, on December 14th. More info on this will be in the December issue of the newsletter.



Haynes Retro Radio Kit

At our last club meeting on September 3rd, McKinley-KI5BVQ and Alex - KI5FKT, presented this Haynes "Retro Radio Kit."



The advertisement for it bills itself as a 1970s style AM/FM radio - though the dial suggests it's only FM. It goes on to mention that no soldering is required, requires a 9VDC battery and is for ages 14 and over.

The radio kit is available through Amazon.com for \$19.99 plus \$7.62 for shipping and handling. More info is at: <https://www.amazon.com/Haynes-Retro-Radio-Build-Working/dp/B00GHO0D4G>



Drought Disaster Declaration

Due to exceptional drought conditions in the panhandle and south Texas, Governor Greg Abbott issued a state of disaster on August 23rd. Abbott announced the state of disaster for the counties of Duval, Hall, Jim Hogg, Randall, Swisher, Webb and Zapata. Currently, 73% of the state has some level of drought per the U.S. Drought Monitor.

Wildfire activity in Texas has also been increasing since the first of August. In Texas, approximately 90% of all wildfires are human caused, with the most common wildfires having been from debris burning and equipment use.

Dry conditions and the abundance of grass, brush and other ground cover can quickly turn an unattended spark into a wildfire. Residents are encouraged to follow the below recommendations to help prevent wildfires.

Use Equipment Safely:

- Grinders, welders, mowers, shredders, balers and other heavy equipment all produce heat and have the potential to start a wildfire.
- Exercise caution when using equipment on hot, dry, and windy days.
- Keep the machinery free of debris build up and in good repair. Always keep a fire extinguisher nearby in case a fire starts.
- Residents should avoid driving in tall, dry grass where the hot catalytic converter can start wildfires – catalytic converters operate between 550-1600° F and can reach 2000° F if the engine is not running properly.

Safe Debris Burning:

- Before burning, check with officials to make sure your county is not under a burn ban. Texas county burn ban information can be found at: <http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/TexasBurnBans/>.
- Choose a day to burn with winds under 10 mph and high relative humidity for your area.
- Keep the debris pile small and only add more material as it burns down. Clear the area around the pile down to mineral soil.
- Always stay with your fire and have equipment on hand in case it gets out of the designated area.

Residents are also encouraged to follow all local burn regulations. In Texas, county burn bans restrict outdoor burning for public safety and are determined by county judges and county commissioners.

For more information on the Governor's State of Disaster declaration, please visit: <https://gov.texas.gov/news/post/governor-abbott-declares-state-of-disaster-in-south-texas-due-to-drought-conditions>



YL NEWS and VIEWS

Linda DeVito *"Whirling Dervish of WUVT"*

It's Monday morning at radio station WUVT, and Linda DeVito is whirling around like a dervish, punching buttons on the radio board, delivering public service announcements, and prepping the turntable for an honest-to-goodness vinyl record. Then the phone rings. "Parks and Recreation," she answers, still fiddling with toggles on the sound board.

No, DeVito, a 41-year veteran of Virginia Tech's independent radio station, is not losing her mind. As a member of the Floyd County Board of Supervisors, DeVito has volunteered to temporarily oversee the county parks and recreation department until a director is hired. This means she gets calls during her show about everything from wet playing fields to the time of volleyball practice.

She came to Virginia Tech for its forestry and wildlife program, seeing herself becoming a forest ranger at a state park. But while at the campus bookstore, there was WUVT doing a live broadcast — and she wanted in. She saw WUVT and her world changed. DeVito soon switched her major to communication studies.



After graduating, DeVito became WUVT's first female general manager in 1980, when women were decidedly in the minority at Virginia Tech. As general manager, DeVito had to persuade the university not to shutter WUVT for a year during Squires Student Center's renovation. Because WUVT must raise a large portion of its operating costs, she threw herself into fundraising, helping the station achieve two of its best years.

In 1988, when her son was a toddler, DeVito started the station's "Hickory Dickory Dock" children's music show. It has continued 31 years — WUVT's longest-running show. "We had staffers go home to get the records they listened to as children. Now we have a big collection of children's music, probably more than any other station."

DeVito, 62, wears a dizzying array of hats — she's a mom, a realtor, a Christmas tree farm co-owner, a supervisor/public servant, a disc jockey, radio personality and mentor, a special event planner, and primary caregiver for her 90-year-old mother. Along the way, she picked up another hat: weather guru. She's trained as a weather observer with the National Weather Service and uses the social media and her show to give forecasts based on radar maps and meteorological analyses. She says people have praised her accuracy.

She's a source of wisdom for the students who currently run the station. At the same time, she's hands-off enough to allow the students to press forward with their own vision of what WUVT should be and has one of the most audience-friendly shows.

DeVito's show airs on WUVT on 90.7 FM, but listeners can pick up the show anytime through the station's website at: <https://www.wuvt.vt.edu/>

Turkeys Away!

WKRP in Cincinnati - October 30, 1978

"WKRP in Cincinnati" was a television series about a struggling radio station that changed formats from easy listening to rock and roll. The conflict (and thus, the comedy) came from the contrast between the people who worked for the station beforehand - bumbling but kindhearted station manager Arthur Carlson, sleazy ad salesman Herb Tarlek, timid news reporter Les Nessman, and the new, young and hip hires, program director Andy Travis and disc jockeys Dr. Johnny Fever and Venus Flytrap.

The series Thanksgiving episode, "Turkeys Away" (which actually aired on October 30th, 1978), showed Carlson trying to take more of a hands-on approach to prove that he still had what it took to run the station. He came up with a secret promotion for Thanksgiving. It was all hush-hush until the end of the episode, where Nessman was on the street, reporting live when the event occurred. As it turned out, the secret project was that Carlson was having a bunch of turkeys dropped from a helicopter high up in the air, into the crowd below. The trouble, of course, is that turkeys aren't particularly known for flying...

"...I'm here with hundreds of people who have gathered to witness what has been described as perhaps the greatest turkey event in Thanksgiving Day history. All we know for sure is that in a very few moments there are going to be a lot of happy people out here. Now the crowd is... the crowd is uh... curious but well behaved. And I think I hear something now. Uh... the crowd is moving out into the parking area. And... oh yes! I can see it now. It's a... it's a... helicopter and it's coming this way!"



"It's flying something behind it and I can't quite make it out. It's a large banner and it says H a p p y... T h a n k s... giving... from W... K... R... P! What a sight, ladies and gentlemen. What a sight. The 'copter seems to be circling the parking area now. I guess it's looking for a place to land. No! Something just came out of the back of a helicopter. It's a dark object, perhaps a skydiver plummeting to the earth from only two thousand feet in the air... There's a third... No parachutes yet... Those can't be skydivers. I can't tell just yet what they are but... Oh my God! They're turkeys! Oh no! Oh, they're crashing to the earth right in front of our eyes! One just went through the windshield of a parked car! This is terrible! Everyone's running around pushing each other. Oh my goodness! Oh, the humanity! People are running about. The turkeys are hitting the ground like sacks of wet cement! Folks, I don't know how much longer... The crowd is running for their lives. I think I'm going to step inside. I can't stand here and watch this anymore. No, I can't go in there. Children are searching for their mothers and oh, not since the Hindenburg tragedy has there been anything like this. I don't know how much longer I can hold my position here, the crowd..."

The episode was a classic. However, was the story based on a real life event? There are different takes on that, but basically, yes. It's important to note that there have been turkey drops in various parts of the country going back decades before "WKRP in Cincinnati."

Contrary to growing folklore and mythical embellishment, it was reported that an actual "turkey drop" took place in Atlanta, sponsored by station WQXI. But that never happened. Years earlier in the 1960's, Dallas station KBOX also did a "turkey drop". But, no, there was no helicopter. For a radio promotion, they did attempt to throw live turkeys out of the back of a pick-up truck in a shopping center parking lot, and yes, it was a mess.

The most famous turkey drop occurs in the town of Yellville, Arkansas. The area is famed for its wild turkeys, so the town decided to begin celebrating their turkeys by having a special turkey day on the first Friday and Saturday in October. The event began in the 1940s, where they would drop turkeys from the roof of the town's courthouse. In the 1960s, that changed to dropping turkeys from an airplane.



In 1989, the "National Enquirer" covered the event and they made the whole thing quite infamous for Yellville. As the "Enquirer" described: One turkey slammed into a power line so hard the wire bent down about three feet before snapping back up. The bird hit the ground, shocked and dazed, and tried to walk... pitifully trying to run on two obviously broken

legs before it was crushed to death by a pileup of kids. Another smashed into a tree and came to rest on a branch. One of the birds was pursued by a gang of kids who captured and fought over it—using it in a grisly tug-of-war that ended when one boy tore the turkey's wing off.

The national outcry led to the event no longer being sponsored directly by the town, but rather by a private group so that the event continued, just without the official support of the town. That kept up for decades until eventually, public outcry led to it stopping for a bit. However, they picked up again in 2016.

There, the town's annual "Turkey Trot" fall festival maintains its' long-standing tradition of dropping live turkeys from a plane 500 feet in the air. Six turkeys were chucked from the plane; one died on impact. The other five were able to use their wings to glide to the ground. Spectators caught two of the surviving turkeys. One turkey catcher said his family will eat the bird, while another said he didn't know what he'd do with the turkey because he hadn't "thought that far ahead."

So while "WKRP in Cincinnati" played the whole thing for laughs, it really does go on in this country.

Meanwhile... at the conclusion of the episode, station manager Arthur Carlson and salesman Herb Tarlek, walk back in to the station covered in feathers. Carlson is in shock but also apologetic. As the episode ends, Carlson uttered the now famous line...

"As God is my witness, I thought turkeys could fly!"

BROADCAST TOPIX

The Craziest Job In Radio

Rural Radio - October, 1938

Few people realize what an important part the sound technician plays in producing a big program - but if you could take a trip through one of the large studios you would agree that the sound effects man has one of the craziest, and also one of the most interesting jobs in radio.

The studio could hardly do without him, for it is he who must create moods which music alone cannot capture. It is the sound effects man, with his bag of artificial tricks, who makes radio sound true to life.

Let us take a trip through the sound effects department of any large radio studio and see if we can recognize some of the intricate and yet commonplace paraphernalia.

You would probably think: "What a mess!" For there in the corner is an old box filled with broken glass; a worn hot - water bottle; plates, knives, bricks, balloons, and flour sifters. From this mass of debris the technician composes his symphonies in sound. How does he go about it?

He has many stock sounds to draw from. Every technician knows that a realistic effect of fire may be had by twisting a piece of cellophane. A varied manipulation produces the crackle of underbrush.

Paul Revere's famous midnight ride can be duplicated with two coconut shells. Add more coconut shells and you have the Charge of the Light Brigade. Press the shells in a box of ordinary table salt and you will almost believe that Washington is riding once again through the snow at Valley Forge.

The breath-taking program, *Lights Out* leans heavily on sound effects, and breath - taking sound effects, at that. Those stabbings and amputations are accomplished, not with human flesh, but with a knife and a head of cabbage. Crushing a cantaloupe is not unlike smashing a skull, and a good rollicking, round and tumble fight is all a matter of hitting a sponge the right way.

The most useful object in the sound department is a basketball bladder, filled with buckshot and inflated with human carbon dioxide. From this one piece of apparatus we get the effects of trains, cannons, explosions, steamboats, tornadoes, rain, thunder, ferry boats and ship vibrations. It all depends upon how you revolve, strike or shake the shot in the bladder. Sometimes the bladders blow up during a program and, then we have an effect startling to the technician, to say nothing of the radio listeners.

Peddle a sewing machine and you have the effect of a lawnmower; revolve a lawnmower around the microphone and you have a printing press. Some day someone will turn on a printing press in front of a microphone and produce a good sound effect never before dreamed of.

These are just a few of the tricks of the sound effects trade, but they might give you some insight into radio production. The next time you are walking down the street and hear a terrific crash, followed by breaking glass and a series of horrible screams, and falling metal, think twice before you turn around. It will probably be a sound technician emptying his pockets into the studio ash bin.

The Fear You Can Hear

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, but, when it comes to the best old-time radio horror, each word is worth a thousand pictures. By using voices, sound effects, and snippets of music, masters of radio terror turned what could've been a disadvantage of the medium—we can't see what's happening—into their greatest asset.

For Halloween this year, try one of our selections below, with mournful organ chords, creaky doors, and various screams. That's only if you dare, of course.

Suspense: “The House On Cypress Canyon” A young couple finally finds a house when they start to hear unearthly howling sounds... from the hall closet. The circuitous ending has been debated by radio fans for decades, which still doesn't make it any less unsettling. https://archive.org/details/SUSPENSE2/45-12-05_The_House_In_Cypress_Canyon.MP3

Lights Out!: “Cat Wife” A hen-pecked husband eventually lashes out at his wife and calls her a cat. Then she gets even more feline in her actions. What would a human/cat hybrid sound like? <https://archive.org/details/LightsOutCatWife04061938>

Escape: “Three Skeleton Key” What some call the most frightening radio show of all time. A lighthouse keeper sees an abandoned ship wash up on shore. Unfortunately, it's filled with hungry rats who are looking to feed after being stuck out at sea. <https://archive.org/details/ThreeSkeletonKey>

Suspense: “Ghost Hunt” Outright terror, as bats and creaky footsteps hint at the actual horrors in a house, make this one almost too scary to get all the way through. <https://archive.org/details/SuspenseGhostHunt6231949>

Lights Out!: “Murder Castle” Based on a true story, a young girl is looking for her lost sister, who went into a massive house and was never seen again. <https://archive.org/details/LightsOutoldTimeRadio/LightsOut-1938-02-16MurderCastle.mp3>

Inner Sanctum: “Black Seagull” A grieving widower talks to the spirit of his dead wife. But is he actually being haunted by his deceased bride, or is he so grief-stricken that he's lost touch with reality? <http://archive.relicradio.com/horror34/TheHorror356.mp3>

Lights Out!: “The Dark” Regarded as the most insane radio program ever produced. A mysterious mist floats in and turns whoever encounters it inside out. <https://archive.org/details/LightsOutoldTimeRadio/LightsOut-1937-12-29TheDark.mp3>

Suspense: “On A Country Road” A couple is in their car on a back road on a dark and rainy night. They hear that an insane murderer has escaped from a nearby asylum. Then their car dies, and a frantic woman appears in a lightning flash. Is she hiding from the murderer, too—or is she the murderer, and using this as a ruse? https://archive.org/details/OTRR_Suspense_Singles_By_Year_1954/Suspense_540104_533_On_a_Country_Road_64-44_14422_29m24s.mp3

Mercury Theater: “War of the Worlds” The Halloween season wouldn't be complete without listening to this broadcast from October 30th, 1938, which panicked the nation. <https://archive.org/details/OrsonWellesMrBruns>